



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 107th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 147

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2001

No. 37

House of Representatives

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2001, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to not to exceed 30 minutes, and each Member except the majority leader, the minority leader or the minority whip limited to not to exceed 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP CRITICAL ASPECT FOR PROMOTING LIVABLE COMMUNITIES

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I came to Congress determined that the Federal Government be a better partner in promoting livable communities, to make our families safe, healthy and economically secure. Government needs to lead by example, to set the tone and follow through. A critical aspect is our environmental stewardship.

I just returned from 4 days in Oregon and was, frankly, surprised at the intensity of the public reaction to this administration's lack of commitment to the environment. The sudden about-face from an explicit campaign promise to have mandatory reductions in carbon dioxide emissions has struck a nerve. The administration may think it is time to study global warming, but most Americans agree with the overwhelming scientific evidence that global warming is real and that we must do something about it.

I was struck by the continued deep opposition to the administration's proposal to drill for oil in the Arctic Wildlife Refuge. For me the issue is not a question of whether the environmental damage may result, it is the funda-

mental question whether we should do it at all.

I was pleased to see a recent newsletter by the Rocky Mountain Institute which contained an article by Amory and Hunter Lovins asking that fundamental question. They point out, for example, that the State of Alaska's own recent survey forecast on the long-term oil prices suggest that the prices are not going to be high enough to make the operation profitable. Using our time and resources to recover this more expensive oil would result not only in a waste of money, but it would in the long run result in more oil imports as we ignore more cost-efficient operations other than the Arctic Wildlife Refuge.

This also continues to ignore the reality that we, as a country, cannot and should not continue to consume energy the way that we currently do: six times higher than the world per capita energy consumption, twice as much as developed countries like Japan and Germany.

The irony is that conservation does work and would work better than a mad rush to exploit our oil resources. It is estimated that a mere 3-mile-per-gallon improvement in the performance of SUVs would offset the entire proposed oil production from the Arctic. And if we feel that we cannot single out these large and inefficient vehicles, then just a ½-mile-per-gallon efficiency improvement in the fleet overall would meet the production of the Arctic wilderness. It is a lack of will regarding the average level over the last 20 years that we have not reduced these mileage requirements. Last year was 24 miles per gallon, tied for lowest in the last 20 years. We can and we should do better.

Simple things like in California having roofs that are white and reflective would reduce air conditioning costs by approximately 30 percent. It would be far more effective for us to make that investment in conservation.

I started in politics during the last energy crisis some 25 years ago, and despite Ronald Reagan's efforts to gut and reverse the efforts, conservation over a period of time has saved a quantity of energy that is four times the entire domestic oil energy production. Conservation is the only alternative that will provide immediate relief to those of us in the West this year. It has no threat from terrorists, no risk of environmental damage, and conservation continues producing every year. That is why past efforts at conservation have made each oil barrel that we have today support almost twice as much of the gross national product as in 1975.

But last and most significant, it does not make sense to strategically drill in the Arctic Wildlife Refuge if we are worried about oil security for the United States. What could be more foolish than placing our bets on an aging 800-mile facility that is increasingly unreliable, that is wearing out, and is impossible to defend? The potential for disruption makes it an ideal target for a terrorist, a rogue state or a deranged person.

It is in fact a potential disaster waiting to happen if you are concerned about security. Far better than this rancorous debate over the potential environmental damage in the wildlife refuge is to work to reduce the waste of energy in the United States.

HEALTH CARE TAX DEDUCTION ACT OF 2001

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MICA). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I just dropped a bill this morning, and I intend to talk about it. It is called the Health Care Tax Deduction Act. What it does is allow deductions for amounts

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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paid for health insurance premiums and unreimbursed prescription drugs. What I am proposing would also provide much-needed relief to individuals struggling with the high cost of health insurance and prescription drugs through a tax deduction.

As we all know, employers can write off the cost of health care coverage that is purchased for their employees. Why cannot individuals be afforded this same opportunity to write off their premiums and their unreimbursed prescription drug expenses? The current tax code sets a threshold at 7.5 percent of adjusted gross income before medical expenses can be taken as a write-off. I do not think this is fair.

Right now, under the current tax code, in order to claim health care expenses the individuals must file an itemized tax return. I believe that all taxpayers should be allowed to deduct these out-of-pocket expenses and costs and that we need to include a place where this deduction could be taken on the short form such as the 1040 EZ, and the 1040A. My bill also applies to the self-employed because individuals who are self-employed will not be eligible for a 100 percent write-off until the year 2003.

Employer-sponsored health insurance is declining. In 1987, 69.2 percent of the population under 65 had health insurance through their place of employment or a family member's place of employment. That number declined to 64.9 percent in 1998. Just who are we talking about? Well, four out of five uninsured Americans in 1998 lived in a family with a full-time worker. Only 72 percent of employees are eligible for coverage from their employer, and about 40 percent of small businesses, 50 workers or less, do not offer any kind of health insurance. This is according to the National Coalition on Health Care.

So who is affected? Low and middle-income families; young adults 18 to 24 make up 30 percent of the uninsured; the near-elderly ages 55 to 64; minority and immigrant populations; people who work in small businesses; others include people with day-labor jobs, temporary or part-time jobs.

I believe we must address this issue because so many Americans are uninsured today, and many millions more are underinsured.

So you might ask why is this so important. Because we all end up paying for the uninsured through higher premiums, deductibles and copayments for covered services, higher taxes for uncompensated care, and reduced wages.

Did you know that Americans spends more than \$1 trillion on health care? That represents about 13.5 percent of the gross domestic product. By 2008, spending will increase to 16.5 percent of the gross domestic product. In fact, Mr. Speaker, Americans spend more per capita for health care than any other nation in the world.

But why are so many people uninsured? Most studies cite cost as a

major reason for not having insurance. Many workers decline coverage through their place of employment because they cannot afford to pay their share of the premium. Others, such as temporary workers, cannot afford to purchase their own insurance.

We all know that the cost of health care has risen dramatically over the last 20 years. The average premium costs about \$4,500 for an individual and about \$6,500 for a family. Of that amount, employees pay 10 to 30 percent of that premium. Unfortunately, things will probably get worse because many employers cover the cost of the high premiums to keep workers in a tight labor market. However, if the economy continues to slow down and unemployment begins to rise, then employers might pass the cost along to the employees or in fact discontinue providing health insurance altogether.

Seniors, in particular, have been impacted because so many HMOs have pulled out of Medicare due in large part to the high cost of prescription drugs. Allowing a simple write-off of certain costly health care expenses such as health insurance premiums and out-of-pocket expenses for prescription drugs would be a tremendous benefit that may not be available to them under the current system.

Mr. Speaker, I will be sending out a letter; and I hope all of my colleagues cosponsor my bill. It makes sense to have all taxpayers have this type of deduction available to them.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 41 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Cheryl J. Sanders, Third Street Church of God, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, we lift hearts full of gratitude to You on this day that You have made, thanking You for the invitation to rejoice and be glad in it. We give thanks for the women and men of this House of Representatives.

Make Your presence and Your purpose come alive in their deliberations and debates today. By Your spirit, please empower their leadership and legislative process. Through them extend Your blessing to every family and community represented here today, Your grace to those without representation, Your equity to the poor, Your

peace to the troubled, Your light to those in despair.

Grant us all full access to the healing resources and reconciling justice You have ordained for our Nation.

In Your name we pray. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. NORTON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 420. An act to amend title 11, United States Code, and for other purposes.

RECOGNIZING THE REVEREND DR. CHERYL J. SANDERS, SENIOR PASTOR, THIRD STREET CHURCH OF GOD

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, it is especially appropriate during this Women's History Month that we have welcomed for prayer a distinguished young woman, an ordained minister of the Church of God, the Reverend Dr. Cheryl Sanders. Not only is Reverend Sanders the senior minister of one of the District's oldest and most distinguished churches, the Third Street Church of God, she is professor of Christian Ethics at Howard University.

Not only does Dr. Sanders minister to the poor as a gifted preacher, she is a woman of extraordinary intellectual range. She has written and taught broadly on subjects ranging from biomedical ethics to the Holiness Pentecostal experience and African American religion and culture. I am proud to note that she has a special interest in feminist ethics.

Madam Speaker, I am particularly proud and pleased to celebrate Women's History Month by having the prayer offered this morning by a woman who, like me, is a native Washingtonian, who attended D.C. public

schools, where she was well prepared to achieve her BA at Swarthmore and her masters and doctorate at Howard University Divinity School, where she now teaches.

Dr. Sanders' life as a Christian minister includes her husband and two children. The Church is blessed when such an able and dedicated woman is called to teach and preach in the Nation's Capital.

PRESERVING MARRIAGE

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, healthy families are fundamentally important to a healthy America. This should go without saying. According to our best data, out-of-wedlock births and weakened marriages are the principal causes of child poverty, welfare dependence, crime, drug use, and child abuse. But the Federal Government spends \$150 billion, that is with a B, on welfare programs to subsidize and support single-parent families, and only \$150 million trying to reduce out-of-wedlock births.

In other words, we spend 1,000 times as much money supporting single-parent families as we spend encouraging parents to commit to raising their children together.

It is time we remembered the traditional two-parent family. Single parents often do a great job, even against the odds. There are millions of heroic single parents in this country doing their best to support and raise their children. But ask them what they think, and they will be the first to tell you that kids would be better off with both mother and dad caring for them.

TIME TO PASS A FLAT TAX

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. From the womb to the tomb, Madam Speaker, the Internal Rectal Service is one big enema. Think about it: they tax our income, they tax our savings, they tax our sex, they tax our property sales profits, they even tax our income when we die.

Is it any wonder America is taxed off? We happen to be suffering from a disease called Taxes Mortis Americanus.

Beam me up. It is time to pass a flat, simple 15 percent sales tax, and fire these nincompoops at the IRS.

Think about it.

I yield back the socialist, communist income tax scheme of these United States.

THE BUDGET, BY THE NUMBERS

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Madam Speaker, the facts are in, and the numbers do not lie. The budget proposed by this Republican-led Congress will meet not only all of the needs, but the priorities as well of the American people.

This budget continues our commitment to improving education by investing \$80 billion next year, that is a 14 percent increase, in the education budget; and it supports our national defense with a \$14 billion budget increase, and a \$5.7 billion increase specifically for improving service members' pay, housing, and veterans health care.

In addition, this budget also includes \$153 billion for Medicare reform, and \$2.8 billion for the National Institutes of Health. We pay down a historic \$2 trillion of the public debt, and ensure that the \$2.6 trillion Social Security trust fund remains safe from the Washington spendthrifts.

Madam Speaker, we achieve all these goals while still giving the American families meaningful and fair tax relief, meaning \$1,600 for the average family of four will be back in their pockets for them to spend.

Madam Speaker, the numbers simply do not lie. And there is one more, millions, and that is how many Americans want us to pass this reasonable budget and tax relief now.

180TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

(Mr. CROWLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to rise in honor of the 180th anniversary of Greek independence.

It was 180 years ago that the Greek patriots rose up against the Ottomans in a courageous act of defiance. Many of them fought and died for what they believed in, the right of self-determination, self-governance, that an independent Greek nation should rightfully exist alongside other sovereign nations, free of foreign domination, oppression and constraints.

A country with a rich history stretching back more than 4,000 years, Greece remains the cradle of democracy and one of the most important contributors to Western Civilization.

When the Founding Fathers of this country sought to create a government of, by, and for the people, they reached for inspiration in the words and theories of the great Greek philosophers.

On this day we reaffirm the common democratic heritage we share. Like our day of independence on July 4th, in which we are always reminded of the cost of freedom and independence, it is only fitting that the Congress of the United States commemorate the struggle that led to Greek independence. We fought the same battles, and won, as did those Greek patriots.

PROTECTING SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE USING A LOCK BOX

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, more than 76 million baby boomers are marching toward retirement, creating the greatest demographic challenge this Nation has ever faced. Our government is not prepared to meet their needs. Medicare could be insolvent in the near future. In just a few years, Social Security could be in the red.

The implications are frightening. Seniors currently rely on Social Security for nearly half of their incomes. Medicare provides a staggering amount of the elderly with their basic insurance benefits.

That is why the Republican Congress has taken the first step. We stopped the 30-year raid on the Social Security trust fund, and also on Medicare. Republicans made retirement security a priority and followed through on our word. Now Congress has adopted a lock box on the Social Security program and the Medicare program.

Madam Speaker, Republicans stopped Congress from spending the surplus out of these trust funds for new spending programs.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK AND AG DAY

(Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women of America who help feed the world. This week is National Agriculture Week, and today is Ag Day. It is a time when we take a moment to pay tribute to those that work the land to feed our world.

For many of the constituents in my district, it is a very special day. Southwest Minnesota is a national leader in producing soybeans, corn, sugar, turkeys, pork, and dairy products.

The efficiency of U.S. farmers is a benefit to all Americans. American families spend approximately 9 percent of their income on food, compared to 11 percent in the United Kingdom, 17 percent in Japan and 53 percent in India.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues not to forget the farmer among all of the other pressing issues of the day. Agriculture is a vital link to the success of our Nation, and we must help our farmers by working to grow demand for their products.

ADMINISTRATION DOING NOTHING TO HELP POWER CRISIS

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, the Pacific Northwest is locked in an unprecedented drought. We have lost hydropower generation and we are going to have to buy energy. But the energy markets have gone haywire because of the failed California deregulation. Prices are 10 times what they were a comparable month 2 years ago.

This is outrageous price gouging and profiteering on the part of some national energy companies. It is threatening residential ratepayers and businesses alike in the Northwest and California.

The Northwest delegation just met with Vice President CHENEY, and we have had the response of the Bush-Cheney administration. They will do one thing to help us, one thing to help the residential ratepayers and the businesses of the Pacific Northwest in the face of this catastrophe that is coming with huge rate increases for profiteering by a few national energy companies based, strangely enough, in Texas. They will do one thing to help us, they told us, and that one thing is nothing.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE PINA BROOKS SWIFT

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great lady of Virginia, my friend Pina Brooks Swift, who recently died unexpectedly at the age of 65.

Pina was the chairman of the Virginia Board of Elections and served as past chairman of Republican counties both in the city of Fredericksburg and in Stafford County, Virginia, two prominent localities in Virginia's first district.

Pina was a woman of great energy and integrity who always let you know where she stood, but at the same time respected the opinion of others. She had friends in all walks of life and in both parties. Even those who disagreed with her on some issues, admired her for her candor and genuine affection for her fellow human beings.

In my own case, Pina and I shared a common philosophy, though there were a few issues on which we diverged. But no matter, we spoke freely to one another and always parted as the best of friends.

The death of Pina Brooks Swift marks the end of a remarkably productive life. She will long be remembered as one of the founding ladies of the modern Republican Party of Virginia, as well as a person who was forceful, kind, caring and a great credit to humanity. She will be deeply missed.

OFFICER JAMES NAIM TRIBUTE

(Ms. HART asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HART. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a fallen hero. James Naim of Hopewell Township in Pennsylvania was a police officer who was ambushed and fatally shot at point-blank range while he was on foot patrol this past Thursday night. It was a senseless act of violence and cowardice; but unfortunately, such violence has become all too common in our society today.

Officer Naim was at a turning point. He was 32 years old. He was only a police officer in the city of Aliquippa for 14 months, and he was only a few weeks away from earning his college degree. He had been working on it part-time. He was about to be reunited with his wife, Sofia, a native of Bulgaria, who had been having trouble getting her visa to return to the United States.

□ 1415

This young couple had a bright future ahead of them. In the midst of all of this opportunity and change, James Naim knowingly risked his life every day doing what he loved: protecting the lives of others.

All too often we find ourselves looking for heroes in movies and on television, when all we have to do is look next door and see someone like Officer Jim Naim, someone who never sought recognition for his honorable dedication to others, but courageously paid the ultimate price in achieving it.

Today over 1,000 police officers attended the burial of Officer Naim, which reflects the profound impact he had on the lives of those around him. I join them in their tribute to his service and ultimate sacrifice, and recognize that the world has tragically lost another hero.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that she will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on postponed questions will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules, but not before 6 p.m. today.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF COMBATTING TUBERCULOSIS

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 67) recognizing the importance of combatting tuberculosis on a worldwide basis, and acknowledging the severe impact that TB has on minority populations in the United States, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 67

Whereas tuberculosis is a horrible disease that is preventable and treatable;

Whereas one third of the world's population is infected with the TB bacteria, including between 10 and 15 million people in the United States;

Whereas someone in the world dies of TB every 15 seconds;

Whereas TB will kill more people this year than any other year in history;

Whereas TB rates are substantially higher for minorities in the United States;

Whereas African Americans suffer from TB at a rate that is eight times greater than that of Caucasians, Latinos at six times greater, Native Americans at five times greater and Asians at a rate of nearly fifteen times greater;

Whereas a substantial number of States have TB rates above the national average, the highest rates being found in Texas, Hawaii, California, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, and New York;

Whereas the increased threat of TB emerging in the United States is an unavoidable byproduct of increased international travel, commerce, and migration;

Whereas leading TB experts agree that in order to control TB in the United States, it is necessary to control TB in the developing countries that contribute the vast majority of the global TB burden and are the destination of tens of thousands of American visitors each year; and

Whereas it is possible to control tuberculosis worldwide, as the global community eradicated smallpox and may soon eradicate polio, if the worldwide political will to do so is found: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the importance of increasing United States investment in international tuberculosis control within the foreign aid budget for fiscal year 2002;

(2) recognizes the importance of supporting and expanding domestic efforts to eliminate TB in the United States; and

(3) calls upon local, national and global leaders, including the President of the United States, to commit to putting an end to the worldwide TB epidemic.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution presently being considered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, H.R. 67, introduced by our colleagues, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), seeks to draw more attention at home and abroad to the growing threat posed by tuberculosis. This deadly disease not only poses a threat throughout the developing world, but also disproportionately afflicts minority and poor populations in the United States.

Tragically, Madam Speaker, one-third of the world's population is infected with tuberculosis, a treatable and curable disease. Yet millions die from the disease because its victims lack education and an awareness about its deadly consequences on them or the meager resources needed for treatment. More alarming is the fact that between 10 million and 15 million Americans are infected with tuberculosis in the United States and thousands die of that disease each year.

Madam Speaker, every 15 seconds a person is infected with the deadly tuberculosis virus; and as a consequence, more people will die of the disease this year than in any other year in history. It is also important to underscore that infectious diseases know no borders and that as a result of travel and commerce, more and more Americans, especially the poor and minorities, will become infected and die from this preventable disease.

The global community worked collectively to eradicate smallpox and is working to rid the world of the polio virus. We can do the same with regard to tuberculosis. It is also possible to save lives by providing the poor and minorities in our own country as well as overseas with inexpensive tuberculosis treatment. Madam Speaker, this is not only the right thing to do, it is the smart thing to do. By saving lives, we can increase the productivity and lessen the burden on our taxed health care systems, both in the United States and overseas.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, it is important for the Congress to pass H.R. 67 in order to recognize the challenge posed by the tuberculosis epidemic and to redouble our efforts to combat and eradicate this terrible and deadly disease. This is another example of how America can act globally to serve its own interests at home.

I commend my colleagues for drafting this timely and important resolution, and I urge them to vote for its adoption.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 67 expresses support for increased United States funding for international tuberculosis treatment and eradication efforts. I would first like to commend my friend and colleague, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), for introducing this resolution.

This resolution before us today calls for increasing U.S. investment substantially in international tuberculosis control within the Foreign Aid budget for fiscal year 2002. The Reyes resolution also recognizes the importance of supporting and expanding domestic efforts to eliminate TB and calls on international leaders to commit to putting an end to the worldwide TB epidemic.

Madam Speaker, March 24 is World TB Day, the day dedicated to raising awareness of the terrible toll inflicted by tuberculosis and to increase support for fighting TB. It is, therefore, appropriate that we are taking up this resolution today, just a few days prior to World Tuberculosis Day.

Madam Speaker, tuberculosis kills 2 million people every single year. That is one person every 15 seconds. Globally, tuberculosis is the leading cause of death of young women and the leading cause of death of people with HIV/AIDS. The World Health Organization, Madam Speaker, estimates that one-third of the world's population is infected with bacteria that cause tuberculosis, including an estimated 10 million to 15 million people here in the United States. Tuberculosis is spreading as a result of inadequate treatment, and it is a disease that knows no national borders.

In order to control TB in the United States in a more effective manner, it is critical that we ensure the effectiveness of TB-controlled programs globally. There is a highly effective and inexpensive treatment for tuberculosis. It is recommended by the World Health Organization as the best method for treating TB. The strategy is known as Directly Observed Treatment Short Course, DOTS for short. It produces high cure rates, prevents the further spread of the infection, and prevents the development of strains of multi-drug resistant TB. Yet fewer than one in five of those ill with tuberculosis are receiving this treatment.

Based on the estimates of the World Bank, Madam Speaker, this treatment is one of the most cost-effective health interventions available, costing less than \$100 to save a life. It can produce cure rates of up to 95 percent, even in the poorest countries.

Madam Speaker, I think the United States should commit more of our resources to support this treatment globally. It is the only way that we will be able to stop TB here in the United States and across the globe. I believe that passage of the Reyes resolution will signal that this House of Representatives strongly supports increased funding for the global battle against tuberculosis.

I commend the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) for introducing this resolution, and I urge all of my colleagues to support H. Res. 67.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), my friend and colleague, and the author of this most important resolution.

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for yielding me this time this afternoon.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues to support a

very important resolution. This resolution recognizes the importance of combatting tuberculosis commonly referred to as TB, on a worldwide basis and acknowledges the severe impact that TB has on minority populations in the United States.

As I speak this afternoon, I want my colleagues to focus on these four statistics: someone in the world is infected with TB every second of every day; someone in the world dies of TB every 15 seconds; TB kills 2 million people every year; and TB rates are substantially higher for minorities in the United States.

I introduced this resolution with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. RODRIGUEZ), my friend and colleague, because the problem of tuberculosis, which many people think of as a disease of the past that has largely been eradicated, is again posing a serious threat to the health and security of our Nation. We must exert maximum effort to combat this disease on a global scale.

Madam Speaker, tuberculosis is a horrible disease that is preventable and treatable; yet one-third of the world's population is infected with the TB bacteria, including between 10 million and 15 million people in the United States. Every second of every day, a person somewhere in the world is infected with TB. Every second of every day, additionally, someone in the world dies of TB. This treatable disease will kill more people this year than any other time in our history.

Furthermore, TB rates are substantially higher for minorities in the United States, with African Americans suffering from this disease at a rate that is eight times greater than that of Caucasians; Latinos at a rate that is six times greater than Caucasians; Native Americans at a rate of five times greater; and Asians at a rate of nearly 15 times greater. Everything possible needs to be done to stop this disease in its tracks. I am greatly concerned with the TB infection rates along the U.S.-Mexico border as well. Texas and California have TB rates above the national average.

Madam Speaker, TB is emerging in the United States as an unavoidable by-product of increased international travel, commerce, and migration. It is necessary to control TB in developing countries if we are going to control it here within our own borders in the United States. We need to eradicate TB just as we have eradicated smallpox.

Madam Speaker, we need to substantially increase the investment in international tuberculosis control within the foreign aid budget for fiscal year 2002. We need to recognize the importance of supporting and expanding domestic efforts to eliminate TB in the United States, and we all need to work together to put an end to the worldwide TB epidemic.

I ask my colleagues to support H. Res. 67. The World Health Organization has designated this coming Saturday

as World TB Day, and I cannot think of a more appropriate way to bring attention to this terrible disease this year than the passage of this resolution.

Finally, I would like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), my good friend, and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), also my good friend, and their staffs for their work on the Committee on International Relations and for their help in managing this bill. I would also like to thank all of my colleagues who cosponsored this important legislation and who I am sure will keep up the fight to eradicate tuberculosis on a worldwide basis.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN).

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Tuberculosis is the greatest infectious killer of adults worldwide. Each year, 8 million people are diagnosed with tuberculosis and 2 million die from it, one person every 15 seconds. In India alone, 1,100 people die every day from tuberculosis. Not surprisingly, the statistics on access to TB treatment worldwide are pretty grim. Fewer than one in five of those with TB receive Directly Observed Treatment Short Course, or the so-called DOTS treatment.

Based on World Bank estimates, DOTS treatment is one of the most cost-effective health interventions available, costing as little as \$20, and no more than \$100, in the developing world to save a life and producing cure rates of up to 95 percent, even in the poorest countries with the least developed health care infrastructure.

□ 1430

But we have a small window of opportunity during which stopping tuberculosis can be cost effective. The failure to effectively treat TB, which comes from incorrect or interrupted treatment and inadequate drug supplies, creates stronger strains that can become resistant to today's drugs.

An epidemic of multi-drug resistant TB, so-called MDR-TB, multi-drug resistant TB, would cost billions to control, with no guarantee of success. MDR-TB has been identified on every continent. According to the World Health Organization, MDR-TB ultimately threatens to return TB control to the pre-antibiotic era, the pre-1950s era, where no cure for TB was available.

In the U.S., TB treatment, normally about \$2,000 per patient, skyrockets to as much as a quarter million dollars per patient, what happened in New York City in the early 1990s, and an MDR-TB treatment may not even be successful.

MDR-TB kills more than half of those infected in the United States and other industrialized nations. In the developing world, multi-drug resistant TB is an effective death sentence.

As H. Res. 67 makes perfectly clear, more needs to be done.

To control TB in the U.S. more effectively, it is necessary to ensure the effectiveness of TB control programs worldwide.

It is not just the humanitarian and the right thing to do for us to work on TB in this country, it also makes a difference and work internationally on TB will make a difference in this country.

This week I will be joined by the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) and the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN) in introducing two pieces of legislation responding to the global TB threat.

Our global TB legislation calls for U.S. investment in international TB control of \$200 million for next year, with a focus on expanding proven, low-cost TB treatment in countries with high levels of TB.

Our domestic bill calls for an annual investment of \$528 million in Atlanta's Centers for Disease Controls in their efforts to eliminate TB and \$240 million in the National Institutes of Health TB research activities.

The Director General of the World Health Organization, Gro Bruntland, said that TB is not a medical problem, it is a political problem. Getting Americans engaged in an international and a domestic issue like TB, even when addressing that issue serves our best interests, is an uphill battle. Still, it is one worth fighting.

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) for their efforts on this issue. We have an opportunity to save millions of lives now and prevent millions of needless deaths in the future.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters for the RECORD between the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. TAUZIN):

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,

Washington, DC, March 19, 2001.

Hon. W.J. "BILLY" TAUZIN,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce,
Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I have received your letter concerning H. Res. 67, a resolution recognizing the importance of combating tuberculosis on a worldwide basis. It is our intention that the House consider this resolution on the suspension calendar. The Committee on Energy and Commerce was granted an additional referral on this resolution based on its jurisdiction over public health issues.

We recognize your jurisdiction, and appreciate your willingness to waive your right to consider this resolution without waiving your jurisdiction over the general subject matter.

As you have requested, I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record during consideration of the resolution.

I appreciate your assistance in getting this important legislation to the floor.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, March 19, 2001.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman, Committee on International Relations,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HYDE: it is my understanding that the House leadership has scheduled H. Res. 67, recognizing the importance of combating tuberculosis, for floor action tomorrow, March 20, 2001. As you know, the Committee on Energy and Commerce was given a named additional referral on this legislation.

Because of the desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner, I will not exercise my Committee's right to a referral. By agreeing to waive its consideration of the bill, however, the Energy and Commerce Committee does not waive its jurisdiction over H. Res. 67.

I ask for your acknowledgment of the Energy and Commerce Committee's jurisdiction over this legislation. I further request that you include this letter as part of the RECORD during consideration of the legislation on the House floor.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

W.J. "BILLY" TAUZIN,
Chairman.

Madam Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, I would like to, first of all, thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), my colleague who was elected with me in the 10th Congress, for yielding the time.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 67, legislation which highlights the importance of combating TB on a worldwide basis.

I want to salute the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for introducing this resolution.

I also want to thank the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) for taking the lead with me in introducing legislation to increase the amount of money that we are expending as seed money to combat tuberculosis on a worldwide basis.

My support is ongoing for programs which save, protect and enhance the lives of millions of people around the world, programs such as infectious disease control and tuberculosis control, in particular.

International tuberculosis control has become an important issue to me over the past few years. Although it is not a widely known fact, TB is the biggest infectious killer of young women in the world. In fact, TB kills more women worldwide than all other causes of maternal mortality combined.

Someone in the world is newly infected with TB every second, and 8 million people become sick with the disease annually. TB accounts for more than 1 quarter of all preventable adult deaths in developing countries.

Currently, an estimated one-third of the world's population, including 15 million people in the United States, are infected with the TB bacteria; and

due to its infectious nature, TB cannot be stopped at national borders. It is impossible to control TB in the United States until we control it worldwide.

Effective TB treatment is one of the most cost-effective, tangible interventions that can extend the life of HIV-infected persons, protect families from financial ruin and enable women and girls to enjoy a brighter future. Unfortunately, less than one in four of these infected with TB have access to proven treatment, a proven treatment called DOTs, despite the fact that it is extremely cost effective and produces cures of up to 90 percent.

A full six-month course of drugs costs only \$10 or \$15, and this strategy has improved cure rates by up to 50 percent and has reduced drug resistance. However, I stress that only a quarter of the world's active TB patients now use DOTs. The World Health Organization, in collaboration with various governments, foundations and anti-TB groups, seeks to solve these problems by creating a global drug facility which will buy and supply good quality drugs to countries and non-governmental organizations that agree to use them correctly.

The United States must take a leadership role in supporting this initiative by substantially increasing spending programs to eliminate the spread of TB worldwide from \$60 million to \$200 million next year, with at least half of the money going to the drug facility.

Until we control TB internationally, the minority sectors of our own society will continue to be severely impacted by this disease. Latinos suffer from TB at a rate that is six times that of Caucasians. Rates among African Americans are eight times higher, and Native Americans have an incidence five times greater. Moreover, TB affects Asians with an incidence nearly 15 times greater than Caucasians.

Today, when people and diseases can reach any destination on the globe within 36 hours, TB anywhere is a threat everywhere. The longer we wait to address the TB epidemic, the more difficult and expensive it will be to eradicate the disease.

H. Res. 67 summarizes exactly what we must do to achieve this end, and I urge the support of this body.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), my good friend.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 67, which recognizes the importance of fighting tuberculosis worldwide and especially among minority populations in the United States. I commend the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), my good friend, for recognizing the increasing threat of tuberculosis worldwide and its reemergence in the United States.

Decades ago in this country many Americans were forced into sanitariums as a way to control the spread of TB. Since then, there have been diag-

nostic and treatment advances that have led to a decline in the number of tuberculosis cases. In the United States between 1977 and 1999, the cases of TB decreased by 42 percent. During this time, the cases of TB in Chicago also decreased by 57 percent.

However, despite the decline of TB among the general population, a disturbing trend of TB remains prevalent among African Americans and other minority groups within the United States. The cases of TB between 1995 and 1999 for African Americans in Chicago were more than four times higher as compared to nonHispanic whites.

Although African Americans were recorded as less than 40 percent of Chicago's population, African Americans accounted for 62 percent of all recorded TB cases in Chicago. In 1999, Chicago was ranked the third highest in the Nation of TB cases, with 463 cases reported.

The community of Chicago's Southside, where approximately 36 percent of the TB cases are reported, joined hands together with the help of the Metropolitan Chicago Tuberculosis Coalition and the American Lung Association of Metropolitan Chicago to develop priorities to move towards the decline in the number of TB cases. Education was listed as the first priority to help in reducing these cases; and I agree with the community leaders, health care professionals and individuals from organizations who are developing and implementing programs of education to educate citizens to become actively involved in fighting this dreaded disease.

Again, Madam Speaker, I want to commend the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and all of those who are calling for additional funding for tuberculosis both Nation-wide and here at home.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to speak in support of H. Res. 67, recognizing the importance of combating tuberculosis on a worldwide basis, and acknowledge the severe impact that TB has on minority populations in the United States.

TB WORLDWIDE

While TB is an ancient disease, it is also one of the world's deadliest. Every day, 20,000 people develop TB and 5,000 die from it. TB accounts for more than one quarter of all preventable adult deaths in developing countries.

Each year, there are two million TB-related deaths worldwide and a disproportionate number of people who become sick with TB are the most vulnerable—women, the poor, the homeless, racial and ethnic minorities and people infected with HIV.

TB is the leading killer of people who are HIV-infected, accounting for one third of AIDS deaths worldwide. People co-infected with HIV and TB are up to 800 times more likely to develop active TB during their lifetime than people without HIV infection.

TB is the biggest killer of women, causing more deaths among women worldwide than all other causes of maternal mortality combined.

TB IN THE UNITED STATES

In the 1970s and '80s the United States let its guard down against TB. Many states and

cities redirected TB prevention and control funds to other programs and TB came back with a vengeance. The trend toward elimination was reversed and the US experienced a resurgence of TB with a 20 percent increase in TB cases reported between 1985 and 1992. Many of these persons were suffering from difficult to treat drug-resistant TB.

Today, 15 million people in our country are infected with the TB bacteria.

TB rates are substantially higher for minorities in the United States.

African-Americans suffer from TB at a rate that is eight times that of Caucasians.

My state of North Carolina is just below the National average for TB cases. In 1999, North Carolina had a TB rate of 6.4 cases per 100,000 persons. The goal on the Tuberculosis Control program in North Carolina is to reduce TB by the year of 2010 to under one case per one million persons, virtually eliminating TB in the state. This bill encourages leaders in my state, the nation, and world-wide to continue efforts to eliminate Tuberculosis.

WHAT MUST BE DONE

The end of this week (March 24th) is World TB Day. This is the day we commemorate the discovery of the TB bacteria in 1882. Unfortunately, today we are further away from eliminating this killer than we were that day over 100 years ago.

The global community has been complacent about this disease for too long. That is why I am pleased to support Mr. REYES' Resolution commemorating this day and acknowledging the harsh toll that TB takes on minorities. In addition to acknowledging the continued impact of this disease, I also believe we here in the United States must greatly increase our investment in domestic and international TB control programs. Due to its infectious nature, the only way to control TB at home is to address it worldwide. We must invest in our future now, before it's too late—before the spread of drug-resistant TB becomes too difficult or too expensive to control at all.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 67, Recognizing the Importance of Tuberculosis On A Worldwide Basis. This resolution marks a significant realization by the global public health community that we need to do more to stop this illness.

One-third of the world's population, including between 10 million and 15 million people in the United States, is infected with the tuberculosis (TB) bacteria, and rates of TB are substantially higher for minorities in the United States than for other Americans.

This resolution recognizes the importance of "substantially increasing United States investment in international tuberculosis control" in the FY 2002 foreign aid budget. We can no longer delay in combating this illness with the priority it deserves. The resolution also recognizes the importance of supporting and expanding domestic efforts to eliminate tuberculosis (TB) in the United States and calls on local, national and world leaders, including the president, to "commit to putting an end to the worldwide TB epidemic." This is a global problem, which requires a rapid and effective response from all nations.

The measure notes that the increased threat of TB emerging in the U.S. is an "unavoidable byproduct of increased international travel, commerce, and migration," and that in order to control TB in the United States, it is necessary to control TB in developing countries.

Madam Speaker, TB is an avoidable problem, and, in many ways, is much easier to control than other epidemics. We are not doing enough, however, to keep TB from touching our children's lives. We must redouble our efforts as to stem the tide of the TB epidemic and disseminate the appropriate preventive measures to lessen the illness where possible.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 67, recognizing the importance of tuberculosis funding.

On March 24th, 1882, Dr. Robert Koch discovered the bacteria that causes TB.

More than a century later, TB is still a serious world threat. In fact, it kills more people today than it did a century ago.

Somewhere in the world someone dies of TB every fifteen seconds.

One third of the world's population is infected with the TB bacteria.

This year alone, TB will take more than 2 million lives, including the lives of many minorities here in the United States. The illness is particularly affecting our African American population.

This disease is a threat to all of us, including to my constituents in California, which has one of the highest rates of this illness in the country.

Therefore, it is essential that we increase funding for TB control, and increase efforts to eliminate TB in the United States.

We must call upon world leaders, including the President to commit to putting an end to this epidemic.

Mr. GILMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 67 and I commend my colleague, Mr. REYES from Texas for bringing this important issue to our attention.

Tuberculosis (TB) is a communicable disease caused by the bacteria *tubercle bacillus* and a related *mycobacterium* (*Mycobacterium bovis*). It is characterized by toxic or allergic symptoms that primarily affect the lungs. One third of the world's population is infected with the TB bacteria, including between 10 and 15 million people in the United States. A substantial number of states have TB rates above the national average. The highest rates are found in Texas, Hawaii, California, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, and my home state of New York. Additionally, TB rates are substantially higher among minorities in the United States. African Americans suffer from TB at a rate of eight times greater than Caucasians, Latinos at six times greater, Native Americans at five times greater and Asians at a rate of nearly fifteen times greater.

Globally, 2 million people die from TB each year. It is estimated that between 2000 and 2020, nearly one billion people will be newly infected, 200 million people will get sick, and 35 million will die from TB—if control is not further strengthened. The global epidemic is growing and becoming more dangerous. The breakdown in health services, the spread of HIV/AIDS and the emergence of multidrug-resistant TB are contributing to the worsening impact of this disease. Leading TB experts agree that in order to control the disease in the United States it is necessary to control TB in the developing countries that contribute the majority of the global TB burden and are the destination of thousands of American visitors each year.

H. Res. 67 recognizes the importance of substantially increasing the United States investment in international tuberculosis control within the foreign aid budget in fiscal year 2002 to help countries worldwide, recognizes the importance of supporting and expanding domestic efforts to eliminate tuberculosis in the United States and call upon local, national and global leaders to commit to putting an end to the worldwide tuberculosis epidemic. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to support this measure and help limit the spread of this devastating disease.

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to speak in support of House Resolution 67, which recognizes the importance of combating tuberculosis on a worldwide basis and acknowledges the severe impact TB has had on minority populations in the United States.

Leading experts on tuberculosis agree that in order to control this deadly disease in the United States, we need to control TB in the developing countries that make up the vast majority of the global TB burden. No one thinks this will be easy, but it is possible.

The global community successfully eradicated smallpox and many soon get rid of polio. If the international community contributes the necessary resolve and resources, we can eradicate tuberculosis as well.

In 1999, there were an estimated 8.4 million new cases of tuberculosis—up from 8 million in 1997. This increase was due in large part to a 20 percent increase in incidence in African countries with high HIV/AIDS rates. Most countries with rapidly growing HIV epidemics also have high TB rates. This is true for countries such as Brazil, Ethiopia, and Nigeria. This is typically because these countries lack the proper health care personnel, infrastructure, and funding. The link between HIV and TB rates means that we can expect several million additional new cases of TB as HIV continues to spread in high-prevalence countries.

TB is the leading cause of death from infection among young women worldwide. One third of the world's population is infected with the tuberculosis bacteria—including 10–15 million people in the United States—and every year between two to three million people die of this curable disease.

On March 16, Archbishop Desmond Tutu officially launched World TB Day, and, on March 24, the international community will recognize World TB Day. The theme, "DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment, Short-course)—TB cure for all," call for equitable access to TB services for anyone with this disease. Access to treatment should be available to men and women, and rich and poor alike. It should also be available to vulnerable groups such as people with HIV or drug-resistant TB. The theme of a TB cure for all contributes to the fulfillment of everyone's right to the highest possible standard of health.

TB rates tend to be significantly higher in the poor and disadvantaged worldwide, and TB rates are substantially higher for minorities in the United States. In fact, Asian Americans are fifteen times more likely to suffer from TB than Caucasians, African Americans are eight times more likely, Latinos are six times more likely, and Native Americans are five times more likely to suffer from this disease.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend an organization in my district called Results. Results is a non-profit organization that

seeks solutions to world hunger and poverty. Results is actively working to eradicate TB. I support this goal, and I want to make sure Congress provides the resources to assist in this effort.

Madam Speaker, Congress has a duty to substantially increase the U.S. investment in international tuberculosis control, and to expand domestic efforts to eliminate TB in the United States. I am committed to making this happen, and I am pleased that this important resolution was brought to the House floor today.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 67 which recognizes the importance of combating tuberculosis worldwide and the severe impact of tuberculosis on minority populations in the United States. I would like to thank Congressmen SILVESTRE REYES and CIRO RODRIGUEZ for introducing this resolution.

In particular, I would like to recognize the leadership of Congressman SHERROD BROWN who has been an outspoken advocate for increased investment in tuberculosis treatment and prevention.

In last year's Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, we worked together with Chairman SONNY CALLAHAN to triple funding for international tuberculosis to \$60 million. Although this was an important victory, we must do more to combat tuberculosis on a global level.

Few diseases are as widespread and as devastating as TB. TB kills 2 million people each year—and is second only to AIDS as the biggest infectious killer of adults in the world. TB will kill more people this year than any other year in history.

TB is also the leading cause of death among people with HIV. It accounts for one-third of AIDS deaths worldwide and up to 40 percent of AIDS deaths in Africa and Asia.

In the United States, TB rates are substantially higher for minorities than Caucasians. African Americans suffer from TB at a rate of eight times greater, Latinos at a rate of six times greater, and Asians at a rate of nearly fifteen times greater.

The good news is that an effective treatment does exist for TB. The World Bank has reported that DOTS (Directly Observed Treatment Shortcourse)—is one of the most cost effective health interventions available. It costs just \$20–\$100 to save a life. The problem is that only one in five of those ill with TB is receiving treatment.

We have a very small window of opportunity during which stopping TB would be cost effective. If we go too slowly, so much drug resistant TB will emerge that it will cost billions to control, with no guarantee of success.

I enthusiastically support this resolution and working to ensure that Congress provides adequate funding to treat and prevent this terrible disease.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 67, which recognizes the importance of combating tuberculosis on a worldwide basis, and acknowledging the impact that TB has had on the United States minority population.

Hawaii's location, population and visitor profile makes for a unique role in infectious disease developments throughout the Pacific Basin and Asia. Unfortunately, Hawaii has the distinction of having the highest rate of TB among the 50 States. Eighty percent of TB cases occur among the foreign-born. Most of

these cases occur in immigrants within five years of arrival into the State.

The State of Hawaii Department of Health Tuberculosis Control Program works closely with the United States Public Health Service Honolulu Quarantine Station (USPHS HQS) to identify communicable diseases such as tuberculosis. The USPHS HQS has been responsible for the identification of communicable TB cases in immigrants that would not have been detected in their native country.

This partnership has been threatened due to recent staff cuts at the USPHS HQS. More quarantine officers are desperately needed to provide protection to the residents of Hawaii and the rest of the United States.

I am hopeful that the passage of this resolution will remind Americans that we must work with all developing nations to combat this horrific disease. We must also keep all U.S. quarantine stations staffed at appropriate levels to limit the spread of TB in our country.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, today I join my colleague from Texas [SILVESTRE REYES] in order to recognize the need to fight Tuberculosis (TB) across the globe. To many Americans, this is a disease of the past or one that only exists in other countries, far from us. Unfortunately, it is neither gone nor far away. Today, TB remains a dangerous disease impacting 15 million in the United States. If we are to eliminate TB within our own borders, we must work to control TB on a world wide basis.

Nearly 57 million Americans travel in any given year outside of the United States, approximately 1 million people legally immigrate to the United States, and millions of others travel here each year. This continuous movement across borders increases the possible spread of the disease and makes it an international public health threat. While the disease knows no borders, we within our borders can take action and recognize the need to combat tuberculosis globally.

I am greatly concerned that one-third of new TB cases originate in the four Southwest border states of Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California, and that minorities are disproportionately hurt by this disease. Tuberculosis occurs along the border at twice the national average. In the United States, Latinos suffer from TB at a rate that is six times that of Anglos. African-Americans suffer from TB at a rate that is eight times that of Anglos.

TB needs to be controlled now before it spreads uncontrollably, or worse yet, becomes resistant to treatments. For most of us it might seem a distant disease that few of us will encounter, but it is a real and threatening disease that can harm many in the United States if we do not take control measures now. I urge you to support this fight against tuberculosis and to support H. Res. 67.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 67, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKES IN EL SALVADOR

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 41) expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquakes that struck El Salvador on January 13, 2001, and February 13, 2001, and supporting ongoing aid efforts.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 41

Whereas on the morning of January 13, 2001, a devastating and deadly earthquake with a magnitude of 7.6 on the Richter Scale and a depth of 36 miles occurred off the coast of El Salvador, southwest of San Miguel, killing hundreds of people, injuring thousands of people, and displacing approximately 1,000,000 people;

Whereas the earthquake has left damage throughout the country, having caused significant landslides and destruction in 12 of El Salvador's 14 provinces;

Whereas almost 2,000 aftershocks and tremors have been recorded, and they continue to occur;

Whereas on the morning of February 13, 2001, a second devastating and deadly earthquake occurred with a magnitude of 6.6 on the Richter Scale and an epicenter located 15 miles east-southeast of San Salvador, El Salvador, killing more than 250 people, injuring thousands of people, and leaving thousands of other people homeless;

Whereas the people of El Salvador have displayed strength, courage, and determination in the aftermath of these earthquakes;

Whereas the people of the United States and El Salvador have developed a strong friendship based on mutual interests and respect;

Whereas El Salvador has appealed to the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the international community generally for economic assistance to meet the substantial relief and reconstruction needs of that nation in the aftermath of these earthquakes; and

Whereas the United States has offered technical and monetary assistance through the United States Agency for International Development: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) expresses—

(A) deep sympathy for the people of El Salvador for the tragic losses suffered as a result of the earthquakes of January 13, 2001, and February 13, 2001; and

(B) support for the efforts of the people of El Salvador to rebuild their homes and lives;

(2) expresses support for continuing and substantially increasing, in connection with these earthquakes, relief and reconstruction assistance provided by relief agencies and the international community, including the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the United States Agency for International Development;

(3) urges the President to encourage such entities to expedite such assistance; and

(4) encourages assistance by other nations and organizations to alleviate the suffering of the people of El Salvador and to assist them in rebuilding their homes and lives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) and the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 41.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I include for the RECORD the following letters from the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY):

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,

Washington, DC, March 19, 2001.

Hon. MICHAEL G. OXLEY,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I have received your letter concerning H. Con. Res. 41, a resolution expressing sympathy for the victims of the earthquakes in El Salvador. It is our intention that the House consider this legislation on the suspension calendar. The Committee on Financial Services was granted an additional referral on this resolution based on its jurisdiction over international financial and monetary organizations.

We recognize your jurisdiction, and appreciate your willingness to waive your right to consider this resolution without waiving your jurisdiction over the general subject matter. I will support the Speaker in naming members of your committee as conferees, should it get to conference.

As you have requested, I will include this exchange of letters in the Congressional Record during consideration of the resolution.

I appreciate your assistance in getting this important legislation to the floor.

Sincerely,

HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES,
Washington, DC, March 19, 2001.

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,
Chairman, Committee on International Relations,
Washington, DC.

DEAR HENRY: I understand that you intend to bring H. Con. Res. 41, a resolution expressing sympathy for the victims of the El Salvadoran earthquakes, to the floor for consideration under the suspension calendar. As you know, the Committee on Financial Services was granted an additional referral upon the resolution's introduction pursuant to the Committee's jurisdiction over international financial and monetary organizations under Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

Because of the importance of this matter, I recognize your desire to bring this legislation before the House in an expeditious manner and will waive consideration of the resolution by the Financial Services Committee. By agreeing to waive its consideration of the resolution, the Financial Services Committee does not waive its jurisdiction over H. Con. Res. 41. In addition, the Committee on Financial Services reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provisions of the resolution that are within the Financial Services Committee's jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation. I ask your commitment to support any request by the Committee on Financial Services for conferees on H. Con. Res. 41 or related legislation.

I request that you include this letter and your response as part of the Congressional Record during consideration of the legislation on the House floor.

Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL G. OXLEY,
Chairman.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I yield 3¼ minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), and I commend him for this resolution.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), my friend, for yielding me the time.

Madam Speaker, I rise today as the sponsor in support of H. Con. Res. 41, a resolution which expresses sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquakes that struck El Salvador on January 13, 2001, and February 13, 2001, and supports ongoing aid efforts.

Two devastating and deadly earthquakes rocked the Central American nation of El Salvador on January 13 and February 13. The first quake measured 7.6 on the Richter scale and had a depth of 96 miles and occurred off the El Salvadoran coastline 65 miles southwest of San Miguel.

The second quake measured 6.6 on the Richter scale and had a depth of about 20 miles, and it occurred 48 miles east of San Salvador. Neighboring countries of Guatemala and Honduras also felt this quake.

These devastating earthquakes were responsible for over 1,100 deaths and more than 8,000 injuries. In addition, the quakes destroyed 150,000 homes and damaged another 185,000 houses. In total, over 1.5 million El Salvadorans have been affected by these national catastrophes.

The humanitarian needs of our neighbors in El Salvador are substantial. El Salvadorans need clean water, health facilities, homes, schools and paved roads. These needs are compounded by severe poverty, particularly in the rural areas, which affects 63 percent of El Salvador's rural families.

The damage assessments continue to rise. The USAID reports that the cost of rebuilding after the two earthquakes will be more than \$2.8 billion. Adding to the devastation are the aftershocks that continue to occur in El Salvador.

The United States Geological Survey reports that hundreds of landslides have occurred, making the roads im-

passable in many places around lakes, while debris flowing around such lakes have altered drainage patterns which will cause sediment dams to form during the rainy season. In addition, many roads and bridges have been washed out or blocked by landslides or mudslides.

As of March 15, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reports that over 70,000 people lack adequate drinking water and must depend on clean water transported by trucks.

□ 1445

Currently, UNICEF is organizing the distribution of water and working closely with the Pan-American Health Organization and the World Health Organization.

After years of brutal civil war and unrest, El Salvador has emerged as one of the most stable nations in Latin America. Not only has El Salvador developed a thriving economy, but it also has instituted many significant democratic reforms. I am deeply concerned that the damage and human suffering caused by these earthquakes may threaten the future stability and economic success of El Salvador. We cannot allow this tragedy to result in socio-political backsliding.

The Washington, D.C. metropolitan area is home to approximately 135,000 Salvadoran-Americans, which is the second-largest Salvadoran community in the United States, only behind Los Angeles, California. I want to take this opportunity to commend the El Salvadoran immigrants who live in America, work honest jobs, contribute to our local economies, and also save enough to send home to their families in El Salvador. Salvadoran immigrants' contributions to their home land is laudable and substantial. They send an estimated \$2 billion annually to their families, making their remittances El Salvador's main source of foreign exchange.

Saint Anthony's of Padua Catholic Church in Falls Church, Virginia, is a shining example of the community and the Church working together to bring relief to those who need it most. The congregation is where 5,000 Salvadoran-Americans worship weekly.

By the end of January, almost \$93,000 was collected during the Sunday services. Subsequent to this collection, Reverend Father Jose E. Hoyos and his congregation have collected food, drinking water, blankets, and other basic necessities to distribute to earthquake victims.

Father Hoyos traveled to El Salvador in early February to inspect the damage and to report back to his parishioners on recovery efforts. In addition, Father Hoyos brought a check for \$88,276 made out to the Catholic charity, Caritas, for the archdiocese of San Salvador.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from North Carolina (Chairman BALLENGER), the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE), and

the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY) for their support in quickly moving this resolution through their committees.

Finally, I believe H. Con. Res. 41 is an important resolution that deserves the support of every Member, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote in favor of this resolution.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I first would like to commend the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) for introducing this important resolution. I rise in strong support of the resolution.

El Salvador has suffered two devastating earthquakes within the span of one single month. The first of these was on the 13th of January at a magnitude of 7.6. It killed 827 people, injured about 5,000 others, and destroyed or damaged 222,000 homes.

On February 13, the second earthquake, measuring 6.6, struck El Salvador again, causing more death and destruction in this beleaguered nation.

About a million and a half Salvadorans have been affected, almost one in every four of the country's population. The equivalent in the United States, Madam Speaker, would be that the entire populations of Florida and New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois would have been affected.

On top of these two massive earthquakes, Salvadorans are coping with scores of smaller quakes, now over 5,000 aftershocks. Of course this follows Hurricane Mitch in 1998 and years of civil war preceding it.

We must respond on a scale befitting both of the disasters and the respect and friendship we have for the people of El Salvador.

Now, the administration recently announced some additional assistance for El Salvador. But many of us feel that this has not been anywhere nearly adequate. We were even more surprised and concerned to learn that the earthquake aid that President Bush has pledged has simply taken away from other priorities in El Salvador and the entire region at a time when Latin America has been suffering from a spate of natural disasters.

How long, Madam Speaker, are we going to continue this policy of robbing Peter to pay Paul?

The economies of the affected countries are strained beyond endurance, and much of the progress we have made over the past 2 decades has been reversed. We spent billions during the 1980s to promote democracy in these countries. Now is the time to help them move forward.

The President declared our relationship in the Western Hemisphere to be a foreign policy priority. Yet, I ask what real commitment is there in terms of economic development assistance that we intend to put into this region?

We should vote to pass this resolution today. But more importantly, we should commit ourselves to do more and to do it soon.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 41.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, today we have the resolution before us, H. Con. Res. 41, which expresses sympathy for all the victims of the two devastating earthquakes.

I would like to say that my wife and I have been working in El Salvador for 35 years and have many friends there. A few days after the earthquake, we were in our hotel, 10:33 in the evening, and that time can be confirmed by several of us that were there, we had an aftershock on the seventh floor of the hotel which was rather a fascinating way to spend the evening.

These quakes on the Richter scale, we have all discussed that. I would just like to say that, after this disaster and we got back to the United States, people in North Carolina have come forward. And this people do not know: it was the beginning of their school year. Their first school day almost, the earthquake came, and it destroyed over 1,000 of their schools. So I was able to get volunteers in North Carolina to provide three container-loads of school furniture and three container-loads of baby diapers. I look forward to this being able to help those people, because it truly is a disaster.

These quakes could not have come at a worse time. Since the end of its protracted civil war, El Salvador has been developing a thriving economy and instituting democratic reforms, making it one of the most promising nations in the region. However, the damage and human suffering caused by the earthquakes now threatens the future stability and economic success of this nation. Without immediately helping, we in the U.S. and elsewhere, the efforts made by El Salvador and its people have been made in vain.

The Department of State and USAID have informed Congress that the Bush administration intends to provide \$100 million in assistance. Additionally, and a very important thing, U.S. Attorney General Ashcroft has provided temporary protective status for some 100,000 undocumented Salvadorans, which allows them to stay here and continue to work without the fear of being sent back.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to yield 6 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT).

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Madam Speaker, as others have indicated, this past January and February El Salvador was rocked by two major earthquakes and thousands of smaller

aftershocks. I think it was the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS) who sponsored the resolution who indicated that some 1,200 people were killed and almost 10,000 were injured.

Thousands of homes have been destroyed, and the country's infrastructure has been severely impacted. The property damage alone is estimated to be at least \$3 billion, according to the most recent estimates; and these numbers, while horrific, do not tell the entire story.

I traveled with the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), my friend and the chairman of the subcommittee, to El Salvador in January and witnessed the devastation firsthand. We saw people's homes destroyed. We saw a neighborhood buried under a side of a mountain. We handed out survival packages provided by USAID to hungry and homeless families. That was before the February 13 earthquake.

I think it is very important to understand that these people live in desperate fear of continued aftershocks in the coming rainy season, which only can mean further devastation in their lives. That psychological fear was truly palpable.

After the brutal civil war and the destruction caused by Hurricane Mitch, these latest disasters may seem like more than a people can bear. But I want to let my colleagues know that these people are resilient. They are brave. They are meeting the challenges. But it is so clear that they need additional assistance.

I think every American, too, should know that all Salvadorans are cooperating to rebuild their nation. Everyone from local officials to the president is working with one goal in mind, to get El Salvador back on its feet.

As part of that recovery effort, the national government, led by the center-right party, the ARENA Party, is working closely with local mayors, many of whom are FMLN, a center-left party which includes many former guerrillas.

These are the people who, 15 years ago, were literally at war with each other, and they are now working together in close coordination to recover from these earthquakes. Of course they have their differences, but they are resolving them through a democratic dialogue, much like we do every day in this institution.

So from that perspective, and I know the chairman shares my viewpoint, it was a most encouraging trip. The Salvadoran leadership representing many diverse political perspectives deserves to be commended. After many years, democracy has finally taken root in El Salvador. It is in our national interest, and I would submit it is our moral responsibility, given our long history and involvement in El Salvador to nurture that democracy, to assist them in repairing the infrastructure so necessary to advance their economy and their fledgling democratic institutions.

Salvadorans have the will to repair their country, but they need our help to do so. So much has been wrecked that they simply cannot repair the damage on their own. Now that El Salvador is finally a democracy, the kind of democracy that its people dreamed of for years, let us not turn our back on them.

So I urge my colleagues to come together as the Salvadoran people have done.

Madam Speaker, before I sit down, I would be remiss not to note the special relationship that two Members of this institution have with the people of El Salvador. One, of course, is the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), chairman of the Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere. He indicated earlier that he has spent 35 years on El Salvador. What he did not speak to is the fact that those 35 years that he has been providing diapers and roofs and schoolhouses and desks were from his own resources. It is truly a labor of love. I think it is important that our colleagues know that the gentleman from North Carolina (Chairman BALLENGER) and his wife, Donna, are truly held in high regard by the Salvadoran people.

Of course, I also would be remiss not to acknowledge the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), my friend and the leader of the Massachusetts delegation. His name is as well known in El Salvador as it is in South Boston, for it was the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), more than any other American, that helped to bring an end to the bloodshed in El Salvador.

So in his absence, I simply want to acknowledge that and to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) for his courage, for his leadership, to let him know that we are proud of him, all of us, and to report to him that the Salvadoran people continue to be profoundly grateful to his contribution to that nation.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I merely wish to identify myself with the comments concerning the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY).

Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT) be allowed to control the balance of the time on the Democratic side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER).

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ 1500

Mr. BEREUTER. Madam Speaker, I rise as a Member of the majority of the

Committee on Financial Services and on its behalf to support the resolution, H. Con. Res. 41, before us which expresses sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquakes that struck El Salvador on both January 13 and February 13 and to express our support for the ongoing aid efforts.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank and commend the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS), for introducing this sense of the Congress resolution and for his efforts in bringing this measure to the House floor today.

As noted, this expresses sympathy to the people of El Salvador for the tragic losses which they have incurred. The gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) and other Members have referred to the two massive earthquakes and the hundreds of aftershocks, and also the civil war and the hurricane that have been visited upon the people of El Salvador.

Those of us who have visited that country over the years have known about the optimism and especially the energy of the Salvadoran people. No one knows it better than the gentleman from North Carolina and his wife; and as the gentleman from Massachusetts has indicated, they have done so much to assist out of their own financial resources and their own time.

As a member of the Committee on Financial Services, we are urging the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and U.S. Agency for International Development to accentuate their aid. This Member has been in contact and will further contact the executive directors of the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank, as well as the leadership of the former, to see what we can do to be of assistance.

As a member of both the Committee on Financial Services and a member of the Committee on International Relations, I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 41, and thank my colleagues for all they have done in their efforts in working with the people of El Salvador.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SOLIS).

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Committee on International Relations for bringing this resolution to the floor. I have a particular interest in this resolution because I represent well over 10,000 Salvadorans who live in my district in Los Angeles, but more importantly, because of the suffering that this poor country has endured over the last 10 years, whether it be civil wars, Hurricane Mitch, or with the recent earthquakes which continue in El Salvador.

I had the opportunity of meeting with the president of El Salvador, along with other colleagues here, to discuss some of the problems that they face there; and what I ascertained from that discussion is that we need to do better than just provide \$52 million in

aid that the President is going to allow this year, and more than \$58 million in the following year. We need to put up at least \$2 billion to help to restore that country's infrastructure.

Something that I really want to share with Members here, in my discussion with President Francisco Flores, he mentioned that yes, they are receiving aid from other countries, far more than from our very own country; and one of the problems that they are facing is transporting those items and goods and disseminating them in the municipalities. So while we hear that there is a need to coordinate and work with different factions of that country, we still find that there is a stifling effect in terms of disseminating that aid.

I would ask that the United States and our government work quickly to provide humanitarian aid, but human resource aid as well to help deliver those particular needed items to those many children and elderly and people who are now going without protection over their heads because they have no roof, they have no shelter.

Madam Speaker, I want to urge the House to go a step further and really work in partnership with the country of El Salvador. El Salvador has many, many residents here who are hard-working taxpayers.

Madam Speaker, I would close my statement by also thanking President Bush for granting TPS for an 18-month period because it is very important. It is in this spirit that I ask my colleagues to move forward and ask for more assistance, to the tune of at least \$2 billion, for those Salvadorans who are in current need of restoration and support.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to offer to the gentlewoman from California that Myers Shipping Lines, out of California and out of the East Coast, will be happy to deliver at a cut rate, not a free rate, anything that the gentlewoman might collect in California.

Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS).

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Committee on International Relations, I rise today to speak in support of H. Con. Res. 41. It is a resolution that expresses sympathy for the victims of the recent and terrible earthquakes in El Salvador.

Madam Speaker, many people are unaware and uninformed about the recent earthquakes. On January 13, 2001, the earthquake struck with a terrible thunder; and without a doubt the aftermath shall be felt for many years. Landslides, mudslides, aftershocks and tremors continued after the first earthquake. Then exactly 1 month later on February 13, a second devastating earthquake shook El Salvador.

El Salvador is a country that is no longer itself. It is a country that has been transformed by terrible and irre-

versible events. Without our help, it will be unable to recover, and the result will be thousands upon thousands of displaced persons.

Throughout our history, Americans have always been a people who extended their hands to those in need. After World War II, we extended our hands through the Marshall Plan. After the Korean War, we helped to rebuild South Korea. Now after this tragedy, we must help El Salvador.

Madam Speaker, this concurrent resolution accomplishes two basic goals. It expresses our sympathy and solidarity with the people of El Salvador. At the same time, it encourages support for ongoing relief and reconstruction assistance offered by the United States, other nations, and multinational organizations.

I am not one to blindly support the efforts of these multinational organizations, but in this case the direct reconstruction aid offered by them can only result in good. At the same time, I must clarify that I am strongly opposed to the United Nations' population fund effort in El Salvador to distribute reproductive health kits.

Madam Speaker, 1,159 people have lost their lives and 70,000 people are without drinking water. Only by offering the real assistance required and so easily provided by a country with our resources shall we be able to preserve and expand democracy for our posterity.

Madam Speaker, now is the time. We must pass House Concurrent Resolution 41. The gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) has given us this opportunity to extend our own hand in friendship to a neighbor. We must reach out and grasp theirs.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the distinguished gentleman from Maine (Mr. BALDACCI).

Mr. BALDACCI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and for that generous introduction.

I would also like to thank the ranking member from Massachusetts for his leadership here on the floor, and also for the leadership that the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) has given all of us in regards to El Salvador and so many other issues for a long time.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution and offer my strong support to the people of El Salvador as they rebuild their lives, their homes, and their communities from the havoc created by two disastrous earthquakes, one on January 13 and the other on February 13. These disasters resulted in the deaths of several hundred people, with thousands of injured, and over a million homeless or displaced.

I had the opportunity to meet yesterday with a group of young people in my district who are members of a youth organization affiliated with Peace through Inter-American Action based in Bangor, Maine. These students are working with their counterparts in El

Salvador to forge practical solutions to a range of domestic and foreign policy problems.

Last year, they hosted three young people from El Salvador, and the group plans to send a delegation there this summer. The importance of their mission is heightened by the current efforts to rebuild El Salvador after these devastating earthquakes.

I urge my colleagues to support this important humanitarian resolution.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to add my voice to the chorus of voices from this House expressing our condolences to the people of El Salvador. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families, those who died, were injured, displaced by the earthquake and aftershocks last January and February. Our thoughts are also with those worldwide who have committed to lend relief and assistance to those affected by this disaster.

We in the United States appreciate the support of other countries when such disasters happen here, and I am proud that Americans are among those who are helping El Salvador, both by providing immediate relief but also by studying what happened during and after the quakes. By increasing our understanding of the mechanics of earthquakes, we increase our chances of mitigating the damage of future quakes worldwide.

Inevitably, there will be lessons learned from these disasters, as there are with others, including our own. It is important for us in the United States to continue to study these quakes to help mitigate the risks they pose. Let us not forget, earthquakes are a threat to nearly 75 million people in 39 States in the U.S.

Institutions and Federal programs, like the National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program, do a credible job of contributing to our store of knowledge about the causes and effects of earthquakes and can reduce vulnerability to them through engineering research and new building design.

Technology also holds the promise of providing additional real-time warning of an earthquake to countries around the world. Indeed, countries working together have the potential of improving earthquake advance warnings. Additional seconds of advanced warning can mean the mitigation of destruction and can mean the difference between life and death. Our Subcommittee on Research, in the Committee on Science, will address some of these issues at a hearing tomorrow in room 2318 at 2 p.m.

The point I make, Madam Speaker, is we must not only help now but develop and share new technology with the rest of the world. The people of El Salvador have shown great courage and strength in dealing with the effects of this disaster. They deserve our deep sympathy and support, and I join my colleagues in supporting this resolution.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts for yielding me this time, who has shown such an interest throughout Latin America, and to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), who has really personally extended himself to make a real difference in the lives of millions of people in Latin America and particularly in El Salvador.

I am glad to obviously support this resolution expressing sympathy for the victims of the devastating earthquakes, two of them, with approximately 1,200 people having been killed, injuring thousands more, and displacing over a million individuals. El Salvador has faced unbelievable hardships and challenges over the last several years. Think about Hurricane Mitch just 2 years ago, and now two deadly earthquakes just seem like a horrible twist of fate.

It is encouraging to see that the Bush administration is granting extension of the temporary protected status for Salvadorans living in the United States. That affects thousands of Salvadorans in my district alone, who are working very hard not just to make ends meet for their own families but to give everything they can possibly afford back to their country people in El Salvador. In yesterday's Washington Post, they estimated that as much as \$2 billion is being sent home.

Now, that might be one thing if it was coming from some constituents, for example the Irish in America, who by now ought to be doing pretty well, but this is coming from the Salvadorans, who are in very low-paid work. I caused a little laugh there; but everybody knows it is true, and we ought to do more. But this is coming from people who are really providing underpinning for our economy. They are certainly contributing more than they are taking out of our economy; and yet with everything they can afford, they are sending it back.

My point is they are doing their part. We need to do our part for our neighbors. What we really need, as important as this resolution of sympathy is, we need a supplemental of a substantial amount to help the people in El Salvador. We ought to do it now. We put \$6 billion into supporting right-wing dictatorships. Now that they have a stable economy and society, we ought to provide substantial funds to help our neighbors.

□ 1515

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA).

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time, and I thank him for his sponsorship of this legislation, as I also thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) and the gentleman

from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT), who has also been a leader in this, and the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) and the others.

I am a sponsor of this legislation and have, like many of my colleagues, been to El Salvador and seen the difficulties that these very brave people have every single day. To think that they believe in *esperanza*, hope, demonstrates how brave they are. They believe in family. They believe in hard work. They believe in sharing.

I want to join my colleagues in expressing my sympathy for the victims and their families of this devastating earthquake that struck El Salvador in January.

As of February 2, the National Emergency Committee of El Salvador reported over 1,000 deaths, over 4,000 injured, and over 1 million people that have been made homeless. This earthquake was particularly destructive because of its widespread impact which caused damage throughout 12 of the country's 14 provinces. In fact, the earthquake has affected 20 percent of El Salvador's citizens.

Emergency relief to our neighbors has not been sufficient to deal with the extent of the destruction and human suffering that the people of El Salvador continue to endure. Beyond simply providing emergency relief, the cost of reconstruction will be extensive and long lasting. In my community, there are many Salvadorans, many who are now American citizens, who are helping. Also, my county and State have joined forces, just as all Americans should, to help.

I want to commend the President for his demonstration of kindness to the President of El Salvador, Francisco Flores, when he granted temporary protected status to the nationals of El Salvador who are currently residing in the United States.

We, too, can lend a hand to those suffering from this tragedy. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution and any further efforts to improve the conditions for our neighbors in need.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), who has had a long and abiding interest in matters in Central and Latin America and the former ranking member of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and for his leadership in providing assistance to the people in El Salvador at this very difficult time. I want to commend the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) as well for his leadership on this. It is a very important issue.

I know about earthquakes, coming from San Francisco, and I know about El Salvador because I have had a long interest there. In fact, Madam Speaker, my first speech on the floor was about

El Salvador, following the lead of our great chairman then of the Committee on Rules, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY).

The gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) has again exercised leadership, sending a letter signed by 75 colleagues to President Bush asking for significant multiyear assistance for El Salvador. While there is a strong initial response to the crisis, we go through this, those of us in earthquake territory, the emergency response and a strong emotional response from the world, there is no initiative to assist in a longer term with assistance and reconstruction. President Flores has estimated that the relief and reconstruction efforts will cost well over a billion dollars from the international community.

El Salvador has a special significance for the American people. Approximately 1 million Salvadorans live in the United States, thousands of them in my district, I am proud to say. Our nations have close historical ties. We should do everything in our power, and that is significant, everything in our power, to provide sustainable development assistance to lift up the Salvadoran people out of this devastation.

Our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER), earlier mentioned, and many of us who visited El Salvador can agree, about the optimism and the spirit of the Salvadoran people. They are ready to lift themselves up, but they need some help. In coordination with the international community, we must provide a long-term reconstruction assistance package aimed at the areas of housing, crop assistance, clean water and health care.

Madam Speaker, there are many heroes involved in this effort. I named the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), who has long been a hero on the subject of El Salvador, actually joined by his staff person, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), when he was on his staff, now a hero in the Congress on this issue in his own right. I commend them, USAID, the Red Cross, the World Bank, UNICEF, the Inter-American Development Bank, UNDP, OXFAM and World Vision for the important roles that they play.

I once again commend the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT) for his very important leadership on this issue.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, I yield the balance of my time to the gentleman from Worcester, Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), my dear friend and also a leader prior to his coming to Congress on issues involving El Salvador.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. DELAHUNT), for yielding me the time and for his incredible leadership on this issue. I also want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER), for his leadership.

I rise in strong support of this resolution.

I have often thought that the people of El Salvador are constantly being tested. After having survived more than 12 years of a brutal civil war, a peace agreement was reached; and the people of El Salvador began to rebuild their country. In October of 1998, the country was hit by Hurricane Mitch. In November of 1999, I traveled with the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY) to the region of the Lower Lempa River. There we saw firsthand how hard the people, very poor people, were working to rebuild their communities. Quite frankly, their courage, commitment and community spirit was inspiring. And, while still in the throes of recovering from Hurricane Mitch, El Salvador, in the space of 30 days, was brutally battered not by just one major earthquake but by two. In addition, over 2,000 aftershocks have rocked this tiny country.

We have heard the statistics from previous speakers. As the facts come in, the harsh reality is that once again the poorest sector of the country, the most vulnerable, and the rural poor have suffered the greatest loss in terms of housing and economic survival. Nearly 20 percent of the population was rendered homeless by the two earthquakes, and finding adequate housing for them will be a major challenge. If we do not do something to help reactivate the rural community, the rural poor will move even more quickly to the slums of San Salvador and to the United States.

To revive the local economy, people need houses and help to plant their next harvest, to restart their small microenterprises and a long-term plan to lift them out of poverty. And worse is yet to come. Soon the rainy season will start. Over 570 landslides resulted from the first earthquake in January. More followed the second earthquake.

This bill calls upon the international community to respond, quickly and generously. It also calls upon us all to respond not only to the urgent emergency needs of El Salvador but to commit ourselves to the longer term work of reconstruction.

Madam Speaker, I strongly support this call. I want to urgently underscore the need for the United States to lead the international community in the effort to rebuild El Salvador by providing our own long-term and generous contribution to El Salvador's recovery, reconstruction and development. As my colleague from Virginia said earlier, the United States played a very major role in El Salvador in the 1980s, a role, quite frankly, that I questioned whether it was the right role for us to play, but we owe this country a great deal, and I think the very least we need to do is come forward and help them during this very difficult time.

I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 41, and I wish to thank the strong bipartisan coalition of members who have worked to bring this bill to the floor especially Representative DAVIS of

Virginia, Representatives BALLENGER and DELAHUNT, Chairman HYDE and Ranking Member LANTOS.

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And, while still in the throes of recovering from Hurricane Mitch, El Salvador, in the space of thirty days, was brutally battered not by just one major earthquake, but by two. In addition, over 2,000 aftershocks have rocked this tiny country.

You have heard the statistics from previous speakers. As the facts come in, the harsh reality is that once again the poorest sector of the country, the most vulnerable, and the rural poor have suffered the greatest loss in terms of housing and economic survival. Nearly 20% of the population was rendered homeless by the two earthquakes and finding adequate housing for them will be a major challenge. If we don't do something to help reactivate the rural economy, the rural poor will move even more quickly to the slums of El Salvador and to the United States.

To revive the local economy, people need houses, and help to plant their next harvest and to restart their small micro-enterprises, and a long-term plan to lift them out of poverty.

And worse is yet to come. Soon, the rainy season will start. Over 570 landslides resulted from the first earthquake in January. With the rains, earth barely holding onto the tops and sides of hills and mountains will slide down on rural communities. The homeless, protected now only by plastic sheeting, will be even more vulnerable to the elements.

This bill calls upon the international community to respond—quickly and generously. It also calls upon us all to respond not only to the urgent emergency needs of El Salvador, but to commit ourselves to the longer-term work of reconstruction.

I support this call.

After the 1986 earthquake, President Reagan approved \$50 million in emergency aid. Three months later, the Congress approved an additional \$98 million. We can do no less now when the nation-wide effects of the January and February 2001 earthquakes are so much more severe than those experienced in 1986.

I want to urgently underscore the need for the United States to lead the international community in the effort to rebuild El Salvador by providing our own long term and generous contribution to El Salvador's recovery, reconstruction and development.

I urge support of this important bill.

[From the Washington Post, Feb. 23, 2001]

SUPPORTING EL SALVADOR

It wasn't so long ago that day-to-day events in El Salvador were capable of commanding Washington's attention. Now even a major natural disaster in that country close to our borders can go virtually unheeded. In

the past six weeks El Salvador has suffered not one but two large earthquakes that have destroyed a large part of the country outside San Salvador, killed at least 1,100 people and left at least 1.3 million homeless in a population of only 6 million. Yet so far the country that has taken the lead in foreign assistance is . . . Spain, which has contributed \$25 million in emergency relief and organized a donor conference in Madrid next month. The United States, in contrast, has offered only \$10 million so far; the Bush administration says that any additional aid will have to be drawn from existing aid budgets.

This is a poor showing, given both the needs and the past and present ties of the United States to El Salvador. The earthquake threatens to reverse years of recent progress: Officials say that some 120,000 homes have been destroyed, along with scores of schools, local health clinics, roads and agricultural crops. Preliminary studies by the United Nations and the U.S. Agency for International Development suggest that reconstruction costs could rise to \$3 billion—or about \$2,000 for every person in a country where the per capita income is only \$1,100. Unless a vigorous reconstruction program is launched in the coming months, much of the country's economy may simply collapse—likely sending a large new wave of refugees northward.

In 1986, when Central America was at war and a focus of U.S. policy, a smaller earthquake struck San Salvador. Then-Secretary of State George Shultz immediately visited the country to pledge \$50 million in emergency aid, and Congress followed up with another \$98 million in reconstruction funds. With U.S. help, San Salvador rebuilt and over the next few years successfully ended its war with Marxist insurgents, establishing a democracy that has remained stable. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of Salvadorans have settled in the United States, and the \$1.7 billion they send home every year is a mainstay of the economy.

Salvadoran President Francisco Flores will be visiting Washington next week in search not only of U.S. help for reconstruction but an administration decision to grant "temporary protected status" to undocumented Salvadorans now in the United States. This measure, which would shield Salvadorans from deportation and allow them to work legally for a limited time, would likely lead to a large increase in remittances; it was used to help Honduras and Nicaragua after Hurricane Mitch in 1998. The Bush administration should embrace this legal relief as well as substantial new aid—and demonstrate that the United States is committed to an El Salvador that is peaceful and democratic, and not only to one at war.

FEBRUARY 20, 2001.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
President of the United States of America, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.

DEAR PRESIDENT BUSH: The earthquake that shook El Salvador on January 13th and February 13th have had devastating consequences for a country recently hit by Hurricane Mitch, and only beginning to recover from twelve years of civil war. More than 1200 people were killed in the earthquake. Estimates vary about how many homes were destroyed—although recent estimates put the number at about 300,000. This means that over a million people, more than 15% of the population, are homeless. Some are living in refugee camps and shelters, and some are simply sleeping outdoors. There are tremendous humanitarian needs.

This tragedy has a special meaning for U.S. citizens—as many as a million Salvadorans live here, and El Salvador is one of

our closest neighbors. What happens there will affect us, and we should do what we can to help our neighbor recover.

We applaud the efforts that USAID and other agencies of the U.S. government undertook in response to the immediate emergency in El Salvador: sending teams to help dig people out of the rubble, helping with air transport to areas blocked off by landslides, providing emergency food packages, providing temporary housing, etc.

But El Salvador faces difficult long-term challenges. Housing must be re-built, infrastructure repaired and replaced. Environmental problems that increased the severity of the impact of the earthquake must be addressed. And the long-term problems of poverty, especially rural poverty, which have made El Salvador so vulnerable to natural disasters, must be overcome. Rebuilding El Salvador after the earthquake will require a long-term commitment by the Salvadoran people and the Salvadoran government.

Following Hurricane Mitch in October, 1998, the United States joined with other international donors to make a substantial commitment to reconstruction in the region. In addition to generous financial support, the donors adopted a set of important principles to guide their reconstruction efforts. According to these principles, reduction of social and environmental vulnerability, transparency and accountability, decentralization, democracy, debt relief, and human rights are key to the effective reconstruction and transformation of the region. We believe that the same generosity and the same principles should guide our response to the earthquake in El Salvador.

We urge you to support mid-term and long-term development assistance that will enable economically and environmentally sustainable reconstruction in El Salvador.

This will require Congressional support for increased funding of USAID programs for reconstruction in El Salvador over a period of several years.

In addition, it is our view that the extensive damage and negative effects of the earthquake warrant a designation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for El Salvador. As you know, Congress has authorized the Attorney General to grant TPS to nationals of a country if they would face "on-going armed conflict," "natural disaster," or "extraordinary temporary conditions" if returned to their homeland. A TPS designation stays deportation of designated nationals and grants them work authorization for a specific amount of time, either six, twelve, or eighteen months. In this situation, a TPS designation would ensure that Salvadorans in this country could work and send important remittances back to relatives in El Salvador to assist in the reconstruction.

Thank you for your attention to our concerns, and for your support of our neighbors in El Salvador.

Sincerely,

Ambassador Robert E. White, President, Center for International Policy.

Jose Artiga, Executive Director, SHARE Foundation.

Raymond C. Offenheiser, President, Oxfam America.

Rev. Elenora Giddings Ivory, Director, Washington Office, Presbyterian Church (USA).

Jim Winkler, General Secretary, General Board of Church and Society, United Methodist Church.

Raul Yzaguirre, President, National Council of La Raza.

Rev. Bob Edgar, General Secretary, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA.

Nancy Lindborg, Acting CEO, MercyCorps.
Father Charles Currie, SJ, Director, Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities.

Rabbi Dan Polish, Director, Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism.

Rev. John McCullough, Executive Director, Church World Service.

Marie Dennis, Director, Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns.

George Vickers, Executive Director, Washington Office on Latin America.

Kathy Thornton, RSM, National Coordinator, NETWORK, A National Catholic Social Justice Lobby.

Bev Abma, Disaster Response Administrator, Christian Reformed World Relief Committee.

Tom Hart, Director of Government Relations, The Episcopal Church.

Wesley P. Callender, Director, Voices on the Border.

Jim Matlack, Director, Washington Office American Friends Service Committee.

Rev. Mark B. Brown, Asst. Director, International Affairs and Human Rights, Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Dr. John L. Williams, President & CEO, Holt International Children's Services.

Steve Bennett, Executive Director, Witness for Peace.

Linda Shelly, Program Director for Latin America/Caribbean, Mennonite Central Committee.

Dr. Valora Washington, Executive Director, Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

Kathryn Wolford, President, Lutheran World Relief.

Paul Montacute, Director, Baptist World Aid, Baptist World Alliance.

Ralston H. Deffenbaugh, President, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service.

William Goodfellow, Executive Director, Center for International Policy.

Angela Kelley, Deputy Director, National Immigration Forum.

Barbara Larcom, Coordinator, Casa Baltimore/Limay.

Greg Laszakovits, Director, Church of the Brethren, Washington Office.

John Lindsay-Poland, Director, Fellowship of Reconciliation Task Force on Latin America and the Caribbean.

Kathy Ogle, Coordinator, Ecumenical Program on Central America and the Caribbean (EPICA).

The Rev. Dr. Theodore F. Schneider, Bishop, Metropolitan Washington, DC, Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Margaret Swedish, Director, Religious Task Force on Central America and Mexico.

Edith Villastrigo, Legislative Director, Women Strike for Peace.

David A. Velasquez, President & CEO, DBFS International, LLC.

Rev. Bill Quigly, Missionhurst-CICM, Office of the Provincial.

Deborah Sanders, Capitol Area Immigrants' Rights, Coalition.

Martha Pierce, Director, Chicago Metropolitan Sanctuary Alliance.

Gary Cozette, Director, Chicago Religious Leadership Network on Latin America.

Alice Zachman, Director, Guatemala Human Rights, Commission/USA.

Cristina Espinel and Barbara Gerlach, Co-Chair, Colombia Human Rights Committee.

Rev. Kim Erno, Chair, The Latin America Task Force of the Metropolitan Washington, DC, Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the important resolution considered on the Floor of the House today expressing the deep sympathy of Congress for the people of El Salvador and for the tragic losses suffered as a result of the earthquakes of January 13 and February 13, 2001.

I strongly support the continuing and substantial increase of relief and reconstruction

assistance provided by representatives of the international community as well as the United States.

As we all know, in a cruel act of fate, two powerful earthquakes hit Central America this winter causing catastrophic losses in El Salvador. The full extent of the damage is still difficult to fathom. In all, these catastrophic natural occurrences left at least 1,200 people dead. More than one million people have been declared homeless. An estimated 200,000 homes were destroyed. Roads and bridges were completely washed out or severely damaged by the landslides. Many school and health care facilities had to be closed. Running and clean water is much needed. Most of the agricultural supply has been severely threatened. Moreover, survivors are threatened by serious epidemic and disease. Such an environmental disaster has resulted in a substantial and immediate disruption of living conditions in El Salvador and warrants our government's continued support and assistance. In short, the needs of El Salvador at this time are enormous and we need to act accordingly and generously.

I applaud the decision announced by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) following this tragedy to grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to all Salvadoran nationals living in this country. This will be a relief for many Salvadorans who depend financially on their relatives living in the United States.

On March 7, I joined more than fifty of my colleagues to ask the President to address the needs of El Salvador in this time of need. We requested that the administration develop a significant multi-year relief package for El Salvador, targeted toward areas of housing, crop assistance, clean water and health care. We suggest that this plan be considered as part of an emergency supplemental appropriations bill. We will continue to press the administration to act accordingly.

The resolution we are adopting today is a step in the right direction and one of many that should be taken by this House to provide a compassionate and generous response from the United States toward El Salvador to help maintain the stability of the entire region.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of those I represent for the people of El Salvador. I am saddened that El Salvador was struck by the devastating earthquake on January 13th and February 13th of this year. These earthquakes tragically ripped through El Salvador.

Madam Speaker, this earthquake is not the first time in recent memory that a natural disaster has brought devastation on such a wide scale to the people of El Salvador. In addition to this terrible earthquake, there has also been a serious outbreak of dengue fever, which is a very debilitating disease. And it was only two years ago that Hurricane Mitch tore through Central America, leaving an unbearable toll on an already fragile region. In the countries of El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua, more than 11,000 lives were swept away in the rain, winds, and massive landslides that Mitch wrought. In some areas, more than 70 percent of crops were demolished. The price tag of that devastating hurricane soared to more than \$4 billion once a full accounting was made.

Madam Speaker, the people of El Salvador never lost hope in the wake of the devastation

wrought by Mitch. They worked to improve their lives. They rebuilt roads, and schools, and homes. They began to address the needs of citizens dealing with painful losses and an uncertain future. They began to pull themselves, with the help of international monetary and humanitarian assistance. These earthquakes simply threaten to stifle the development and progress El Salvador has made.

We cannot and should not ask the government of El Salvador, or their people, to walk the path toward recovery alone. We must not turn away from their suffering, but rather must respond swiftly and effectively.

I am pleased that the United States Government is actively participating in these international efforts through the work of USAID. To date, USAID assistance to El Salvador totals more than \$5 million, the majority of which was allocated for temporary shelter programs. In addition, the World Food Programme has provided 900 metric tons of rations, the International Federation of the Red Cross has released \$100,000 of disaster relief funds as well as sent a delegation of relief workers to assist the 1,200 person Salvadoran Red Cross. Every ounce of help from the international community helps.

Madam Speaker, the people of El Salvador need our help. We have assisted many nations in desperate times of need. As a Nation of immigrants, we are well aware of the strong ties between El Salvador and the United States. Those ties have flourished in our Nation as the Salvadoran community has grown and prospered. Let us all do our share in helping rebuild and develop the affected areas that were struck by the earthquake.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise to in strong support of H. Con. Res. 41, of which I am a proud sponsor. This resolution sends an important message of support to the people of El Salvador, who are experiencing great hardship as a result of recent earthquakes.

Most of us will never know the heart-breaking trauma of losing everything important to us—possessions, homes, and especially loved ones—within a span of 30 seconds.

This resolution is necessary to publicly express our country's deep sympathy for the plight of El Salvadorans and to highlight the critical need for the timely delivery of much-needed relief and reconstruction assistance from the international community.

The United States is a Nation fortunate enough to be rich in resources and, I believe, rich in compassion. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage our own Federal Government and others across the Nation to join international efforts to provide El Salvador with needed resources for recovery.

In this time of crisis, the Salvadorans have acted with amazing courage and strength. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in expressing our support to the people of El Salvador who are trying to rebuild their lives and their communities, by passing this resolution.

Mr. FALCONA. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation before the House, H. Con. Res. 41, which speaks on behalf of the good people of El Salvador who are struggling to recover from two devastating earthquakes that struck the nation in January and February of this year.

I commend the author of the resolution, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. DAVIS, and the Chairman and Ranking Democratic Member of

the House International Relations Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, Mr. BALLENGER and Mr. MENENDEZ, for introducing this important measure. I further commend the Chairman and Ranking Democratic Member of the International Relations Committee, Mr. HYDE and Mr. LANTOS, for their leadership in bringing the legislation to the floor. I am honored to join our colleagues in expressing concern and sympathy for the victims of the earthquakes in El Salvador and to support ongoing aid and relief efforts.

Madam Speaker, the people of El Salvador have had more than their share of suffering. In recent decades, El Salvador has been torn apart by civil war, a deadly and costly conflict which claimed the lives of more than 70,000 men, women and children before a peace accord was reached in 1992.

A little over two years ago, one of the most destructive natural disasters ever to hit the region, Hurricane Mitch, wreaked havoc on El Salvador. In the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch's 180 mph winds and massive flooding, El Salvador and her neighbors, Nicaragua and Honduras, lost over 11,000 citizens with damages totaling over \$4 billion.

Madam Speaker, despite these major setbacks, the people of El Salvador have worked diligently and courageously to rebuild their nation and democracy. It is a tragedy and cruel fate that they have had to suffer once again.

On January 13th of this year, a huge earthquake registering 7.6 on the Richter Scale struck off the coast of El Salvador, southwest of the city of San Miguel. Exactly a month later, a second crushing earthquake with a magnitude of 6.6 struck east of San Salvador.

Madam Speaker, these devastating earthquakes have taken a tremendous toll on the people of El Salvador and resulted in a humanitarian catastrophe.

Over 1,500 Salvadorans have lost their lives, with thousands more injured. At least 200,000 homes have been destroyed, displacing over a million Salvadorans. More than fifteen hundred schools and dozens of hospitals, as well as essential segments of the country's infrastructure including water systems and the Pan-American Highway, have been badly damaged.

The destruction to El Salvador is estimated to exceed \$2 billion in costs.

Madam Speaker, I would urge our colleagues to adopt this legislation which evidences our heartfelt concern for the people of El Salvador and their tragic losses.

The legislation further supports relief efforts of the United States Agency for International Development for El Salvador's reconstruction, along with the assistance of the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the international community.

To this effect, I commend President Bush for committing \$110 million in relief aid when meeting early this month with the President of El Salvador, Francisco Flores. This is a good beginning but more aid is needed. Also important has been President Bush's work permit initiative for Salvadoran immigrants, which has allowed many Salvadorans to continue sending home substantial sums for reconstruction efforts in El Salvador.

Madam Speaker, I urge passage of the measure before us.

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, today I must vote against HCR 41. While I certainly offer my personal sympathy to the victims in El Salvador, and also join in encouraging relief

agencies to increase their assistance to these individuals, I cannot support this resolution.

In the past I have complained that similar bills have come to the House Floor without going through the committee process. In this instance the committees were included and I applaud the Chairman for ensuring we had an opportunity to discuss this issue at committee. I am also grateful to the committee staff who worked with me in helping facilitate that discussion.

At the subcommittee I introduced an amendment for discussion purposes only. That amendment would have deleted the specific references to governmental assistance contained in this bill. Had that amendment been adopted I could have supported this resolution. Simply, I believe it is not proper for us to force taxpayers in this country to provide this kind of assistance by having the IRS collect these funds. Next, I believe that the Red Cross, for example, would not only be a more sympathetic entity for the purposes of collecting funds used for relief, but also that it would be a more efficient distributor of such funds than are the plethora of government agencies referenced in this resolution.

Mr. BALLENGER. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H.Con.Res. 41.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. DELAHUNT. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6 p.m.

□ 1800

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT) at 6 p.m.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (36 U.S.C. 101 NOTE), the Chair announces the Speaker's ap-

pointment of the following Member of the House to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission:

Mr. LAHOOD of Illinois.

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from RICHARD A. GEPHARDT, Democratic Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
OFFICE OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER,
Washington, DC, March 20, 2001.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (P.L. 106-173), I hereby appoint the following individual to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission: Mr. Phelps, IL.

Yours Very Truly,

RICHARD A. GEPHARDT.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO CANADA-UNITED STATES INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276d, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Member of the House to the Canada-United States Interparliamentary group:

Mr. HOUGHTON of New York, Chairman.

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE HARRY S TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, and pursuant to section 5(d) of Public Law 93-642 (20 U.S.C. 2004(b)), the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following Members of the House to the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation:

Mrs. EMERSON of Missouri; and

Mr. SKELTON of Missouri.

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will now put the question on motions to suspend the rules on which further proceedings were postponed earlier today.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 67, by the yeas and nays; and H. Con. Res. 41, by the yeas and nays.

The Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the time for any electronic vote after the first such vote in this series.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF COMBATTING TUBERCULOSIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the resolution, H. Res. 67, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 67, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 2, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 51]

YEAS—405

Abercrombie	Coyne	Hall (OH)
Ackerman	Crane	Hall (TX)
Aderholt	Crenshaw	Hansen
Akin	Crowley	Harman
Allen	Cubin	Hart
Andrews	Culberson	Hastings (FL)
Armey	Cummings	Hastings (WA)
Baca	Cunningham	Hayes
Bachus	Davis (CA)	Hayworth
Baird	Davis (FL)	Hefley
Baker	Davis (IL)	Herger
Baldacci	Davis, Jo Ann	Hill
Baldwin	Davis, Tom	Hilliard
Ballenger	Deal	Hinchee
Barcia	DeFazio	Hinojosa
Barr	DeGette	Hobson
Barrett	Delahunt	Hoeffel
Bartlett	DeLauro	Hoekstra
Barton	DeLay	Holden
Bass	DeMint	Holt
Bentsen	Deutsch	Honda
Bereuter	Diaz-Balart	Hooley
Berkley	Dicks	Horn
Berman	Dingell	Hostettler
Berry	Doggett	Houghton
Biggert	Dooley	Hoyer
Bilirakis	Doolittle	Hulshof
Bishop	Doyle	Hunter
Blagojevich	Dreier	Hutchinson
Blumenauer	Duncan	Hyde
Blunt	Dunn	Inslee
Boehrlert	Edwards	Isakson
Boehner	Ehlers	Israel
Bonilla	Ehrlich	Issa
Bonior	Emerson	Istook
Bono	Engel	Jackson (IL)
Borski	English	Jackson-Lee
Boswell	Eshoo	(TX)
Boucher	Etheridge	Jefferson
Boyd	Evans	Jenkins
Brady (TX)	Everett	John
Brown (OH)	Farr	Johnson (CT)
Brown (SC)	Ferguson	Johnson (IL)
Bryant	Flake	Johnson, E. B.
Burr	Fletcher	Johnson, Sam
Burton	Foley	Jones (NC)
Buyer	Ford	Jones (OH)
Callahan	Fossella	Kanjorski
Calvert	Frank	Kaptur
Camp	Frelinghuysen	Kelly
Cantor	Frost	Kennedy (MN)
Capito	Galleghy	Kennedy (RI)
Capps	Ganske	Kerns
Capuano	Gekas	Kildee
Cardin	Gephardt	Kilpatrick
Carson (IN)	Gibbons	Kind (WI)
Carson (OK)	Gilchrest	King (NY)
Castle	Gillmor	Kingston
Chabot	Gilman	Kirk
Chambliss	Gonzalez	Klecza
Clay	Goodlatte	Knollenberg
Clayton	Gordon	Kolbe
Clement	Goss	Kucinich
Clyburn	Graham	LaFalce
Coble	Granger	LaHood
Collins	Graves	Lampson
Combest	Green (TX)	Langevin
Condit	Green (WI)	Lantos
Conyers	Greenwood	Largent
Cooksey	Grucci	Larsen (WA)
Costello	Gutierrez	Larson (CT)
Cox	Gutknecht	Latham

LaTourette	Pascrell	Skelton
Leach	Pastor	Slaughter
Lee	Payne	Smith (MI)
Levin	Pelosi	Smith (NJ)
Lewis (CA)	Pence	Smith (TX)
Lewis (GA)	Peterson (MN)	Smith (WA)
Lewis (KY)	Peterson (PA)	Snyder
Linder	Petri	Solis
Lipinski	Phelps	Souder
LoBiondo	Pickering	Spence
Lofgren	Pitts	Spratt
Lowey	Platts	Stark
Lucas (KY)	Pombo	Stearns
Lucas (OK)	Pomeroy	Stenholm
Luther	Portman	Strickland
Maloney (CT)	Price (NC)	Stump
Maloney (NY)	Pryce (OH)	Sununu
Markey	Putnam	Sweeney
Mascara	Quinn	Tancred
Matheson	Radanovich	Tanner
McCarthy (MO)	Rahall	Tauscher
McCarthy (NY)	Ramstad	Tauzin
McCollum	Rangel	Taylor (MS)
McCrery	Regula	Terry
McDermott	Rehberg	Thompson (CA)
McGovern	Reyes	Thompson (MS)
McHugh	Reynolds	Thornberry
McInnis	Riley	Thune
McIntyre	Rivers	Thurman
McKeon	Rodriguez	Tiberi
McKinney	Roemer	Tierney
McNulty	Rogers (KY)	Toomey
Meehan	Rogers (MI)	Towns
Meek (FL)	Rohrabacher	Trafficant
Meeks (NY)	Ros-Lehtinen	Turner
Menendez	Ross	Udall (CO)
Mica	Roukema	Udall (NM)
Miller (FL)	Roybal-Allard	Upton
Miller, Gary	Royce	Velazquez
Miller, George	Ryan (WI)	Visclosky
Mink	Ryun (KS)	Walden
Mollohan	Sabo	Walsh
Moore	Sanchez	Wamp
Moran (KS)	Sanders	Waters
Moran (VA)	Sandlin	Watkins
Morella	Sawyer	Watt (NC)
Myrick	Saxton	Watts (OK)
Nadler	Schaffer	Waxman
Napolitano	Schakowsky	Weiner
Neal	Schiff	Weldon (FL)
Nethercutt	Schrock	Weldon (PA)
Ney	Scott	Weller
Northup	Sensenbrenner	Wexler
Norwood	Sessions	Whitfield
Nussle	Shadegg	Wicker
Oberstar	Shaw	Wilson
Obey	Shays	Wolf
Olver	Sherman	Woolsey
Ortiz	Sherwood	Wu
Osborne	Shimkus	Wynn
Ose	Shows	Young (AK)
Otter	Simmons	Young (FL)
Oxley	Simpson	
Pallone	Skeen	

NAYS—2

Goode Paul

NOT VOTING—25

Becerra	Manzullo	Scarborough
Brady (PA)	Matsui	Serrano
Brown (FL)	Millender-	Sisisky
Cannon	McDonald	Stupak
Cramer	Moakley	Taylor (NC)
Fattah	Murtha	Thomas
Filner	Owens	Tiahrt
Hilleary	Rothman	Vitter
Keller	Rush	

□ 1826

Mr. GUTIERREZ changed his vote from “nay” to “yea.”

Mr. BARR of Georgia changed his vote from “present” to “yea.”

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 51, I was unavoidably delayed by flight

cancellations. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGERT). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will reduce to 5 minutes the minimum time for electronic voting on the additional motion to suspend the rules on which the Chair has postponed further proceedings.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY FOR VICTIMS OF DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKES IN EL SALVADOR

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and agreeing to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 41. The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 41, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 405, nays 1, not voting 26, as follows:

[Roll No. 52]

YEAS—405

Abercrombie	Capito	Duncan
Aderholt	Capps	Edwards
Akin	Capuano	Ehlers
Allen	Cardin	Ehrlich
Andrews	Carson (IN)	Emerson
Armey	Carson (OK)	Engel
Baca	Castle	English
Bachus	Chabot	Eshoo
Baird	Chambliss	Etheridge
Baker	Clay	Evans
Baldacci	Clayton	Everett
Baldwin	Clement	Farr
Ballenger	Clyburn	Ferguson
Barcia	Coble	Flake
Barr	Collins	Fletcher
Barrett	Combest	Foley
Bartlett	Condit	Ford
Barton	Conyers	Fossella
Bass	Cooksey	Frank
Bentsen	Costello	Frelinghuysen
Bereuter	Cox	Frost
Berkley	Coyne	Gallely
Berman	Crane	Ganske
Berry	Crenshaw	Gekas
Biggert	Crowley	Gephardt
Billakis	Cubin	Gibbons
Bishop	Culberson	Gilchrest
Blagojevich	Cummings	Gillmor
Blumenauer	Cunningham	Gilman
Blunt	Davis (CA)	Gonzalez
Boehlert	Davis (FL)	Goode
Boehner	Davis (IL)	Goodlatte
Bonilla	Davis, Jo Ann	Goss
Bonior	Davis, Tom	Graham
Bono	Deal	Granger
Borski	DeFazio	Graves
Boswell	DeGette	Green (TX)
Boucher	Delahunt	Green (WI)
Boyd	DeLauro	Greenwood
Brady (TX)	DeLay	Grucci
Brown (OH)	DeMint	Gutierrez
Brown (SC)	Deutsch	Gutknecht
Bryant	Diaz-Balart	Hall (OH)
Burr	Dicks	Hall (TX)
Burton	Dingell	Hansen
Buyer	Doggett	Harman
Callahan	Dooley	Hart
Calvert	Doolittle	Hastings (FL)
Camp	Doyle	Hastings (WA)
Cantor	Dreier	Hayes

Hayworth	McCollum	Sandlin
Hefley	McCrery	Sawyer
Henger	McDermott	Saxton
Hill	McGovern	Schaffer
Hilliard	McHugh	Schakowsky
Hinchey	McInnis	Schiff
Hinojosa	McIntyre	Schrock
Hobson	McKeon	Scott
Hoefel	McKinney	Sensenbrenner
Hoekstra	McNulty	Serrano
Holden	Meehan	Sessions
Holt	Meek (FL)	Shadegg
Honda	Meeks (NY)	Shaw
Hooley	Menendez	Shays
Horn	Mica	Sherman
Hostettler	Miller (FL)	Sherwood
Houghton	Miller, Gary	Shimkus
Hoyer	Miller, George	Shows
Hulshof	Mink	Simmons
Hunter	Mollohan	Simpson
Hutchinson	Moore	Skeen
Hyde	Moran (KS)	Skelton
Inslee	Moran (VA)	Slaughter
Isakson	Morella	Smith (MI)
Israel	Myrick	Smith (NJ)
Issa	Nadler	Smith (TX)
Istook	Napolitano	Smith (WA)
Jackson (IL)	Neal	Snyder
Jackson-Lee	Nethercutt	Solis
(TX)	Ney	Souder
Jefferson	Northup	Spence
Jenkins	Norwood	Spratt
John	Nussle	Stark
Johnson (CT)	Oberstar	Stearns
Johnson (IL)	Obey	Stenholm
Johnson, E. B.	Olver	Strickland
Johnson, Sam	Ortiz	Stump
Jones (NC)	Osborne	Sununu
Jones (OH)	Ose	Sweeney
Kanjorski	Otter	Tancred
Kaptur	Oxley	Tanner
Kelly	Pallone	Tauscher
Kennedy (MN)	Pascrell	Tauzin
Kennedy (RI)	Pastor	Taylor (MS)
Kerns	Payne	Terry
Kildee	Pelosi	Thomas
Kilpatrick	Pence	Thompson (CA)
Kind (WI)	Peterson (MN)	Thompson (MS)
King (NY)	Peterson (PA)	Thornberry
Kingston	Petri	Thune
Kirk	Phelps	Thurman
Klecza	Pickering	Tiberi
Knollenberg	Pitts	Tierney
Kolbe	Platts	Toomey
Kucinich	Pombo	Towns
LaFalce	Pomeroy	Trafficant
LaHood	Portman	Turner
Lampson	Price (NC)	Udall (CO)
Langevin	Pryce (OH)	Udall (NM)
Lantos	Putnam	Upton
Largent	Quinn	Velazquez
Larsen (WA)	Radanovich	Visclosky
Larson (CT)	Rahall	Walden
Latham	Ramstad	Walsh
LaTourette	Rangel	Wamp
Leach	Regula	Waters
Lee	Rehberg	Watkins
Levin	Reyes	Watt (NC)
Lewis (CA)	Reynolds	Watts (OK)
Lewis (GA)	Riley	Waxman
Lewis (KY)	Rivers	Weiner
Linder	Rodriguez	Weldon (FL)
Lipinski	Roemer	Weldon (PA)
LoBiondo	Rogers (KY)	Weller
Lofgren	Rogers (MI)	Wexler
Lowey	Rohrabacher	Whitfield
Lucas (KY)	Ros-Lehtinen	Wicker
Lucas (OK)	Ross	Wilson
Luther	Roukema	Wolf
Maloney (CT)	Roybal-Allard	Woolsey
Maloney (NY)	Royce	Wu
Markey	Ryan (WI)	Wynn
Mascara	Ryun (KS)	Young (AK)
Matheson	Sabo	Young (FL)
McCarthy (MO)	Sanchez	
McCarthy (NY)	Sanders	

NAYS—1

Paul

NOT VOTING—26

Ackerman	Fattah	Millender-
Becerra	Filner	McDonald
Brady (PA)	Gordon	Moakley
Brown (FL)	Hilleary	Murtha
Cannon	Keller	Owens
Cramer	Manzullo	Rothman
Dunn	Matsui	Rush

Scarborough
SisiskyStupak
Taylor (NC)Tiahrt
Vitter

□ 1837

So (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 52, I was unavoidably delayed by flight cancellations. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-23) on the resolution (H. Res. 92) providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 247, TORNADO SHELTER ACT

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 107-24) on the resolution (H. Res. 93) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 247) to amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to authorize communities to use community development block grant funds for construction of tornado-safe shelters in manufactured home parks, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 526

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor from H.R. 526. My name was mistaken for the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. ROBERT BRADY).

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGETT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

IMPROVING SERVICE AND SAFETY OF FIRE FIGHTERS THROUGH THE ACCESS TO THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS ACT

(Mr. GRUCCI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GRUCCI. Madam Speaker, it takes approximately 28 minutes for responding fire fighters to search the average home by conventional means, which requires fire fighters to crawl on

their hands and their knees, feeling for victims. Thermal imaging cameras reduce the search time to 2 or 3 minutes, letting fire fighters see through the darkness to the location of the fire and, more importantly, to the location of the victims.

According to the National Fire Data Center, each year in the United States 5,000 people die and 25,000 are injured in fires, and approximately 100 fire fighters are killed annually in duty-related incidences. Thermal imaging cameras can help save the lives of both the victims of a fire and the fire fighters themselves. However, only a handful of our Nation's fire departments can afford the more than \$15,000 for this technology.

For this reason, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) and I have introduced the Access to Thermal Imaging Cameras Act, which authorizes the director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA, to make competitive grants to local fire departments for the purposes of acquiring thermal imaging cameras. Similar legislation was very popular with fire fighting organizations and had over 45 cosponsors in the 106th Congress.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in providing our local fire fighting departments with the opportunity to improve the quality of their lives and service.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

MARKING 180TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREECE'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE FROM OTTOMAN EMPIRE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the country where democracy was born and where democracy returned 180 years ago.

March 25, 2001, marks the 180 anniversary of Greece's declaration of independence from the Ottoman Empire. Before then, Greece had been ruled by the Ottoman Empire for almost 400 years, during which time Greeks were deprived of their civil rights.

It is with great pride that Hellenic Americans recount the stories of how their ancestors in Greece stood together and fought against repression by continuing to educate Greek children in their culture, their language, and their religion, even under the threat of death.

This year, the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York has as its parade theme the Hellenic-American educational system. It is espe-

cially important that they are paying tribute to education, cultural heritage, religious learning, and the Hellenic-American values and ideals that are taught in the United States Hellenic parochial schools.

□ 1845

Education has always been the key to preserving Hellenic culture, values, and religion.

This year I have the honor of being selected grand marshal, along with the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS), who cochairs the Hellenic Caucus with me, and Assemblyman Michael Giannaris from New York and California Secretary of State Phillip Ajjedilis and Honorary Grand Marshal Lucas Tsilas. We will have the privilege of marching with many members of my Astoria community, the largest Hellenic community outside of Athens.

The Hellenic and Phil-Hellenic community has a great deal to celebrate. They will celebrate the coming Olympics and the continued efforts of the Hellenic Caucus to seek a peaceful understanding with Turkey on the issues of the Greek Islands and Cyprus occupation. Here in the United States, we often take democracy for granted. In the world, there are still countries fighting for basic human rights. On this day of Greek independence, let us remember the words of Plato, and I quote: "Democracy is a charming form of government, full of variety and disorder, and dispensing a kind of equality to equals and unequals alike."

Is that not a great way to describe democracy?

The best way to express the feeling of the Hellenic community is the Greek National Anthem that tells of their struggle for independence.

I thank the Federation of Hellenic Societies of Greater New York for all of the contributions they have made to our community and in their efforts to make each year's Greek Independence Day celebration more exciting than the last. I know that I will remember this year. Zeto E Eleftheria. Long live freedom in Greece and in the entire world.

CELEBRATING GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. BIGGETT). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, today I, too, proudly rise to celebrate Greek Independence Day and the strong ties that bind the nations of Greece and the United States.

It was 180 years ago when the people of Greece began a journey that would mark the symbolic rebirth of democracy in the land where those principles to human dignity were first espoused. The word "democracy" stems from two Greek words: "demos," meaning "of

the people" and "kratos," meaning "power" and "strength." On this anniversary, it is the power and strength of the Greek people and their courage and commitment to the principles of human government and self-determination that we celebrate.

Revolutions embody a sense of heroism, bringing forth the greatness of the human spirit in the struggle against oppression. It was Thomas Jefferson who said that, and I quote, "one man with courage is a majority." Quoting Jefferson on the anniversary of Greek independence is particularly appropriate. Jefferson and the rest of the Founding Fathers looked back to the teachings of ancient Greek philosophers for inspiration as they sought to craft a strong democratic state. And in 1821, it was the Founding Fathers of our Nation to whom the Greeks looked for inspiration as they began their journey toward freedom.

Encouraged by the American revolution, the Greeks began their rebellion after 4 centuries of Turkish oppression, facing what appeared to be insurmountable odds. Like the United States, Greek faced the prospect of having to defeat an empire to obtain liberty. Many lives were sacrificed at the altar of freedom. In the face of impending defeat, the Greek people showed great courage and rallied around the battle cry, "Eleftheria I Thanatos," liberty or death.

Similar words, "Give me liberty or give me death," spoken in America only 5 decades before by Patrick Henry, embodied the Greek patriots' unmitigated desire to be free.

News of the Greek revolution met with widespread feelings of compassion in the United States. The Founding Fathers eagerly expressed sentiments of support for the fledgling uprising. Several American Presidents, including James Monroe and John Quincy Adams, conveyed their support for the revolution through their annual messages to Congress. William Harrison, our ninth President, expressed his belief in freedom for Greece saying, "We must send our free will offering. 'The Star-spangled Banner,'" he went on to say, "must wave in the Aegean, a messenger for eternity and friendship to Greece."

Various Members of Congress also showed a keen interest in the Greek struggle for autonomy. Henry Clay, who in 1825 became Secretary of State, was a champion of Greece's fight for independence. Among the most vocal was Daniel Webster from Massachusetts, who frequently roused the sympathetic interests of his colleagues and other Americans in the Greek revolution. It should not surprise us that the Founding Fathers would express such keen support for Greek independence, for they themselves had been inspired by the ancient Greeks and their own struggle for freedom. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "To the ancient Greeks, we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves, the Amer-

ican colonists, out of gothic darkness." Our two nations share a brotherhood bonded by the common blood of democracy, birthed by Lady Liberty, and committed to the ideal that each individual deserves the right of self-determination.

We all know that the price of liberty can be very high. History is replete with the names of the millions who have sacrificed for it. Socrates, Plato, Pericles, and many other great scholars throughout history warned that we maintain democracy only at great cost. The freedom we enjoy today is due to a large degree to the sacrifices made by men and women in the past in Greece, in America, and all over the world.

Madam Speaker, on this 180th birthday of Greek independence, when we celebrate the restoration of democracy to the land of its conception, we also celebrate the triumph of the human spirit and the strength of man's will. The goals and values that the people of Greece share with the people of the United States reaffirm our common democratic heritage. This occasion also serves to remind us that we must never take for granted the right to determine our own fate.

Remembering the sacrifice of the brave Greeks who gave their lives for liberty helps us all realize, Madam Speaker, how important it is to be an active participant in our own democracy, and that is why we honor those who secured independence for Greece so many years ago.

Madam Speaker, today I proudly rise to celebrate Greek Independence Day and the strong ties that bind the nation of Greece and the United States.

One hundred and eighty years ago, the people of Greece began a journey that would mark the symbolic rebirth of democracy in the land where those principles to human dignity were first espoused. The word democracy stems from two Greek words; demos, meaning of the people, and kratos, meaning power and strength. On this anniversary, it is the power and strength of the Greek people and their courage and commitment to the principles of human government and self-determination that we celebrate.

Revolutions are often violent affairs. They come about when a people, who have too long suffered under the yoke of oppression and been denied the very basic tenets of human dignity, rise up in the name of self-determination. The concepts of self-determination and revolution were first espoused by the ancient Greek philosophers. Men such as Aristotle, Socrates, Plato, and Euripides developed the then-unique notion that men could, if left to their own devices, lead themselves rather than be subject to the will of a sovereign. It was Aristotle who said: "We make war that we may live in peace." On March 25, 1821, Archbishop Germanos of Patras embodied the spirit of those words when he raised the flag of freedom and was the first to declare Greece free.

Revolutions also embody a sense of heroism, bringing forth the greatness of the human spirit in the struggle against oppression. It was Thomas Jefferson who said that, "One man with courage is a majority." Quoting

Jefferson on the anniversary of Greek independence is particularly appropriate. Jefferson, and the rest of the Founding Fathers, looked back to the teachings of ancient Greek philosophers for inspiration as they sought to craft a strong democratic state. And in 1821, it was the Founding Fathers of our nation to whom the Greeks looked for inspiration as they began their journey toward freedom.

The history of Greek Independence, like that of the American Revolution, is filled with many stories of courage and heroism. There are many parallels between the American and Greek Revolutions. I would like to take the opportunity to recount some of these tales with you now.

Encouraged by the American Revolution, the Greeks began their rebellion after four centuries of Turkish oppression, facing what appeared to be insurmountable odds. Both nations faced the prospect of having to defeat an empire to obtain liberty. And if Samuel Adams, the American revolutionary leader who lighted the first spark of rebellion by leading the Boston Tea Party, had a Greek counterpart, that man would be Alexander Ypsilantis.

Ypsilantis was a Greek who was born in Istanbul, and whose family was later exiled to Russia. Ypsilantis served in the Russian army, and it was there, during his military service, that he became involved with a secret society called the "Philike Hetairia" which translated means "friendly society." The "friendly society" was made up of merchants and other Greek leaders, but the intent of the society was to seek freedom for Greece and her people.

The group planned a secret uprising for 1821 to be led by Ypsilantis. He and 4,500 volunteers assembled near the Russian border to launch an insurrection against the Turks. The Turkish army massacred the ill-prepared Greek volunteers, and Ypsilantis was caught and placed in prison, where he subsequently died. However, the first bells of liberty had been rung, and Greek independence would not be stopped.

When news of Greek uprisings spread, the Turks killed Greek clergymen, clerics, and laity in a frightening display of force. In a vicious act of vengeance, the Turks invaded the island of Chios and slaughtered 25,000 of the local residents. The invaders enslaved half the island's population of 100,000.

Although many lives were sacrificed at the altar of freedom, the Greek people rallied around the battle cry "Eleftheria I Thanatos"—liberty or death. Those same words, spoken in America only five decades before by Patrick Henry, who said: "Give me liberty or give me death," embodied the Greek patriots' unmitigated desire to be free.

Another heroic Greek whom many believe was the most important figure in the revolution was Theodoros Kolokotronis. Kolokotronis was the leader of the Klephts, a group of rebellious and resilient Greeks who refused to submit to Turkish subjugation. Kolokotronis used military strategy he learned while in the service of the English Army to organize a force of over 7,000 men. The Klephts swooped down on the Turks from their mountain strongholds, battering their oppressors into submission.

One battle in particular, where Kolokotronis led his vastly outnumbered forces against the Turks, stands out. The Turks had invaded the Peloponnese with 30,000 men. Kolokotronis led his force, which was outnumbered by a

ratio of 4 to 1, against the Turkish army. A fierce battle ensued and many lives were lost, but after a few weeks, the Turks were forced to retreat. Kolokotronis is a revered Greek leader, because he embodied the hopes and dreams of the common man, while displaying extraordinary courage and moral fiber in the face of overwhelming odds.

Athanasios Diakos was another legendary hero, a priest, a patriot, and a soldier. He led 500 of his men in a noble stand against 8,000 Ottoman soldiers. Diakos' men were wiped out and he fell into the enemy's hands, where he was severely tortured before his death. He is the image of a Greek who gave all for love of faith and homeland.

While individual acts of bravery and leadership are often noted, the Greek Revolution was remarkable for the bravery and fortitude displayed by the typical Greek citizen. This heroic ideal of sacrifice and service is best demonstrated through the story of the Suliotes, villagers who took refuge from Turkish authorities in the mountains of Epiros. The fiercely patriotic Suliotes bravely fought the Turks in several battles. News of their victories spread throughout the region and encouraged other villages to revolt. The Turkish Army acted swiftly and with overwhelming force to quell the Suliote uprising.

The Suliote women were alone as their husbands battled the Turks at the front. When they learned that Turkish troops were fast approaching their village, they began to dance the "Syrtos," a patriotic Greek dance. One by one, rather than face torture or enslavement at the hands of the Turks, they committed suicide by throwing themselves and their children off Mount Zalongo. They chose to die rather than surrender their freedom.

The sacrifice of the Suliotes was repeated in the Arkadi Monastery of Crete. Hundreds of non-combatants, mainly the families of the Cretan freedom fighters, had taken refuge in the Monastery to escape Turkish reprisals. The Turkish army was informed that the Monastery was used by the Cretan freedom fighters as an arsenal for their war material, and they set out to seize it. As the Turkish troops were closing in, the priest gathered all the refugees in the cellar around him. With their consent, he set fire to the gunpowder kegs stored there, killing all but a few. The ruins of the Arkadi Monastery, like the ruins of our Alamo, still stand as a monument to liberty.

News of the Greek revolution met with widespread feelings of compassion in the United States. The Founding Fathers, eagerly expressed sentiments of support for the fledgling uprising. Several American Presidents, including James Monroe and John Quincy Adams, conveyed their support for the revolution through their annual messages to Congress. William Harrison, our ninth president, expressed his belief in freedom for Greece, saying: "We must send our free will offering. 'The Star-spangled Banner' must wave in the Aegean . . . a messenger of fraternity and friendship to Greece."

Various Members of Congress also showed a keen interest in the Greeks' struggle for autonomy. Henry Clay, who in 1825 became Secretary of State, was a champion of Greece's fight for independence. Among the most vocal was Daniel Webster from Massachusetts, who frequently roused the sympathetic interest of his colleagues and other Americans in the Greek revolution.

It should not surprise us that the Founding Fathers would express such keen support for Greek independence, for they themselves had been inspired by the ancient Greeks in their own struggle for freedom. As Thomas Jefferson once said, "To the ancient Greeks . . . we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves . . . American colonists, out of gothic darkness." Our two nations share a brotherhood bonded by the common blood of democracy, birthed by Lady Liberty, and committed to the ideal that each individual deserves the right to self-determination.

We all know that the price of liberty can be very high—history is replete with the names of the millions who have sacrificed for it. Socrates, Plato, Pericles, and many other great scholars throughout history warned that we maintain democracy only at great cost. The freedom we enjoy today is due to a large degree to the sacrifices made by men and women in the past—in Greece, in America, and all over the world.

Madam Speaker, on this 180th birthday of Greek Independence, when we celebrate the restoration of democracy to the land of its conception, we also celebrate the triumph of the human spirit and the strength of man's will. The goals and values that the people of Greece share with the people of the United States reaffirms our common democratic heritage. This occasion also serves to remind us that we must never take for granted the right to determine our own fate.

As Aristotle stated: "If liberty and equality, as is thought by some are chiefly to be found in democracy, they will be best attained when all persons alike share in the government to the utmost."

Remembering the sacrifice of the brave Greeks who gave their lives for liberty helps us all realize how important it is to be an active participant in our own democracy. That is why we honor those who secured independence for Greece so many years ago.

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 180th anniversary of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire. Although there are no final victories in the long struggle to extend the principles of equality and democracy, we should take advantage of this opportunity to celebrate the triumphs of freedom over tyranny.

I would like to thank the co-Chairs of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY and Congressman MICHAEL BILIRAKIS, for their efforts to organize these statements for Greek Independence Day.

For almost 400 years (1453–1821), the Greek people lived under the brutal domination of the Ottoman Empire. This dark period was characterized by the denial of all civil rights, the closing of Greek schools and churches, and rampant kidnappings of Christian and Jewish children. The Greek Revolution marked the beginning of the struggle that freed the Greek people and reestablished democracy in Greece.

Since their war of independence, Greece has been a strong ally to the United States. In turn, the U.S. has opened its heart to multitudes of Greek immigrants. The contributions of the Greek community in the United States are immeasurable. Greek-Americans have played a significant role in all aspects of American life including our arts, sports, medi-

cine, religion, and politics. In the House of Representatives, the children of Greek immigrants have brought their legacy and inspiration. Congress has been made a better place for their contributions.

In San Francisco, the Greek-American community is a vital, historic, and vibrant component of our world-renowned diversity. The social fabric of San Francisco has benefited from the civic leadership of our late Mayor George Christopher, former Mayor and HUD Regional Director Art Agnos, and former Golden Gate Bridge District Board Member Stephan C. Leonoudakis.

Ancient and modern Greece stand as examples to people around the world of overcoming tyranny. They taught the world that the supreme power to govern is vested in the people through self-governance. Wherever tyranny and ethnic cleansing occur, the principles of equality and democracy are also under siege.

As a member of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I am proud to stand in recognition of the 180th anniversary of Greek Independence Day.

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today and to speak with pride about 180 years of freedom and independence for the people of Greece. Like the Fourth of July, Greek Independence Day reminds us of our duty to defend freedom—whatever the cost.

Every year at this time, my colleagues and I reflect and remember the great influence Greece and Greek democracy had on the founders of the United States. This year, I would like to underscore the fact that Greece, the first democracy, continues its march to become fully integrated into the European Union.

On January 1, 2001, Greece became the twelfth member of the European Monetary Union—the euro-zone. Shops in Greece, ahead of the required deadlines, are already displaying prices in the old drachmas and new euros. Euro banknotes will begin to circulate in January 2002, with the drachma, Europe's oldest currency, ceasing to be legal tender the following March. I myself am sentimental about seeing an end to the drachma, but I admire and respect the economic progress and financial stability Greece has demonstrated in order to meet the criteria of membership in the European Monetary Union.

The recent achievements of the Greek economy were praised by the U.S. Ambassador to Greece, Nicholas Burns, at a late-January business conference in Thessaloniki. Greece, he said, was an example to all its northern neighbors who look forward to members in the European Union. Ambassador Burns spoke of the interest now evidenced by American businesses in investment in Greece, especially its northern region. U.S. investments in Greece currently total \$2.2 billion, while bilateral trade increased by some 20 percent.

So we celebrate today not just the glorious past of Greece, but the promising future.

I also want to say a few words about the contributions of Greek-Americans to our own society and communities. In Worcester, there is no better example of this rich heritage than the parish of St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church and the leadership of the Reverend Dean N. Paleologos. Located at 102 Russell Street in Worcester, Massachusetts, St. Spyridon is known for its many services and contributions to the community. In addition to running two schools and hosting a food bank,

the church is the home for a number of neighborhood gatherings and meetings where plans are made to meet the needs of the community. Father Paleologos is an active member in the Worcester Interfaith Council, a coordinating group for public action and service by the religious community.

And St. Spyridon's parish also knows how to celebrate Greek Independence and Greek heritage. Every two years, more than 60,000 visitors participate in the church's Greek Festival. This year, on March 25, the Worcester Greek community will join the Greek Parade in Boston, which is supported by the Greek Consulate, many Greek and American organizations, and by the Metropolitan Metahodios. On April 1, 2001, St. Spyridon's Greek School will celebrate Greek Independence Day with a special Doxology, honoring both Greece and America, and by hosting a community program of poetry, songs and traditional dances.

On behalf of the more than 1,000 families of Worcester who celebrate their Greek heritage, I am honored to be able to support 180 years of Greek Independence. I want to thank Congressman BILIRAKIS and Congresswoman MALONEY for their leadership in organizing today's tributes. They are an inspiration to all of us in Congress.

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I join with my colleagues in celebration of the 180th anniversary of Greek independence. At this time, I would like to thank my colleagues from Florida and New York who have once again shown great leadership in initiating this Special Order and organizing the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues.

Greece has often been called the "cradle of democracy," and rightfully so. In an address that could have been written by one of our founding fathers, Pericles wrote over 2,000 years ago, "Our Constitution is called a democracy because power is in the hands not of the minority, but of the whole people . . . equal before the law." The dream that was born so many years ago in ancient Athens is still alive and well today, here in the United States, and around the world.

Without the example of Greece, the United States might not even be in existence today. As we looked to them for inspiration and guidance in our early, fragile years, so they looked to us on March 25, 1821, when they shook off the repressive bonds of the Ottoman Empire and declared themselves a democracy once again. Since then, they have developed into a strong ally and stabilizing force in their region of the world.

The United States has felt the impact of Greece in many other ways, most notably in the dedication and hard work of its sons and daughters who have immigrated to our nation. These immigrants have contributed greatly to their communities. In my home state of Rhode Island, there are thriving Greek communities in Providence, Pawtucket and Newport. There—as they have done across the United States—they became active participants in their community, and we are richer today because of their great contributions.

Because of all that Greece has given to not only the United States, but also the entire world, it is fitting that we honor our strong ally and its sons and daughters within our nation. Once again, I commend my colleagues for their dedication in making this annual Special Order possible, and look forward to continuing my work with the Hellenic Caucus.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, a declaration of independence is much more than one man standing his ground against another, or a woman raising a flag in protest, or even signatures on a written statement. A declaration of independence is the heart and soul of democracy. Throughout history, people have stood in the face of oppression and demanded to be heard.

It was ancient Greece that originated the basic concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern is vested in the people. The United States adopted this philosophy in the framing of our government, and in 1821 your ancestors enshrined this philosophy in their pursuit of freedom.

On March 25, 1821, the Greek people declared their independence from the Ottoman Empire. Although true freedom was not earned for many years, it was March 25, 1821 that will be remembered for all time. These brave men and women will forever remain a symbol to the people of Greece and to many around the globe.

The United States and Greece have been at the forefront of efforts to promote freedom, democracy and human rights throughout the world. These common ideals have forged a bond between the people of Greece and the United States. It is only appropriate that Americans join in celebration with all Greek-Americans on this special occasion.

It is important to teach America's youth about the many different backgrounds that combine to create our American Heritage, and today it is appropriate to highlight Greek-American heritage.

We have reached a period in time that rivals no other. There are more democratic nations than ever before, but we must continue to make certain that those people still living under the hand of oppressive governments, such as the occupied 40% of the beautiful island of Cyprus, have the tools and resources necessary to achieve their own self-determination.

I would like to extend my best wishes to all Greek-Americans on this day of celebration.

Mr. MEEHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Greek independence from the Ottoman Empire. March 25, 2001 will mark the 180th anniversary of the start of Greece's struggle for independence from the Turks.

The struggle of the Greek people against the Ottoman Empire exemplifies the remarkable ability of a people to overcome all obstacles if the will to endure is strong enough and the goal, freedom, bright enough.

The parallels between the United States and Greece are substantial. American political thought was influenced just as much by Greek philosophy as the Greek revolution of 1821 was inspired by the American fight for freedom in 1776. In fact, Greek intellectuals used the U.S. Constitution as the basis for its own constitution in the 1820's.

Moreover, the common struggles of our countries have given rise to a bond that spans the generations. The United States and Greece have long-standing historical, political, and cultural ties based on a common heritage, shared democratic values, and alliances during World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War and the Persian Gulf War.

Greece is a country of 11.5 million citizens. Its gross domestic product measures approximately \$120.25 billion per year, and it is estimated that Greece's economy will grow at a

rate of five percent annually over the next few years. Furthermore, Greece has major export markets in the United States, Germany, Italy, France and the United Kingdom. And as we all know, Greece has among the richest cultural histories of all nations. The Greek language dates back at least 3,500 years and university education, including books, is free.

The citizens of Greece are now preparing to host the 2004 Olympic Games, an honor that holds particular historical significance for them. Beginning in 776 B.C., the Olympic Games were held in the valley of Olympia in Greece every four years for almost 1200 years. The modern Olympic Games were created by Baron Pierre de Coubertin and inspired by the ancient games. First staged in 1896 in Athens, the games attracted about 245 athletes to participate in 43 events. At the Sydney 2000 Games, more than 10,000 athletes took part in 300 events. The Olympic Movement has survived wars, boycotts and terrorism to become a symbol of the ability of the people of all nations to come together in peace and friendship. And in 2004, the games return to their home.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent a large and active Greek-American community in the Fifth District of Massachusetts. U.S. participation in Cyprus settlement efforts, the fight for freedom and human rights for the people of Cyprus, the inclusion of Greece in the Visa Waiver Pilot Program, and the presentation of the Congressional Gold medal to His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew have all been priorities for the Greek-American community and worthy initiatives I've been proud to support. I will continue to fight for the interests of Greece and Greek-Americans and encourage others Members of Congress to join me.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of the 180th anniversary of Greek Independence. This is a great day, for it commemorates the return of democracy to this, the cradle of Western Civilization, after nearly four hundred years of foreign rule.

Greece has always been proud and independent by nature. Its people were a powerful force both culturally and militarily, as evidenced by the works of Homer and the multitude of Greek philosophers. The pinnacle of Greek influence was Alexander the Great and his unification of the eastern Mediterranean and ancient Middle East. Greek culture was spread throughout the new empire and for the first time, people were communicating with a common language, sharing ideas in a way never before possible. This hellenization was an idea that transformed every place it touched.

Nearly two thousand years later, another important concept from ancient Greece came to the forefront of modern thought. The concept of "rule by the people," an alien idea in a time still dominated by kings and queens, gained prominence in the young United States. This was the desire of the framers of our Constitution, and they found their inspiration in the principles of the polis of Athens.

Thirty years later, in 1821, spurred on by the American example, the people of Greece acted upon a desire to be free. The Ottoman Turks had conquered the region in 1453, bringing an end to over a thousand years of rule by the Orthodox-Christian Byzantine Empire and its resurgence of Greek culture. After a bloody eleven-year war, Greece was finally free once again.

In the modern era, one of the most important reminders of Greek heritage is the Olympic Games, which are finally returning to their origins in Athens in 2004 for the 25th Summer Olympic Games. Every four years, the Olympics have symbolized peace and excellence for people the world over, reassuring us that even the smallest nation can compete on an equal ground with the largest country.

Madam Speaker, it is this feeling that I believe is the greatest contribution Greece has given to our world. We are all equal, whether it is in our democratic government, or in friendly competition, and we can come together in friendship even during the most difficult of times. With that, I would like to thank my colleagues for holding this special order and once again congratulate Greece on the anniversary of its independence and all of the gifts it has given us.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 180th anniversary of Greek independence. One hundred and eighty years ago, after nearly 400 years of oppression under the Ottoman Empire, the courage and commitment to freedom of the Greek people prevailed in a revolution for independence. It is an honor today to celebrate Greek Independence Day in the House of Representatives.

Greece and the Greek people have made remarkable contributions to the United States and societies throughout the world. The achievements of Greek civilization in art, architecture, science, philosophy, mathematics, and literature have become legacies for nations across the globe. In addition, and most importantly, the Greek commitment to freedom and the birth of democracy remains an essential contribution for which we as Americans are eternally grateful.

Greek civilization has inspired the American passion for truth, justice, and the rule of law by the will of the people. The forefathers of our nation recognized the spirit and idealism of ancient Greece when fighting for American independence and drafting our Constitution. Forty-five years after our own revolution for independence, this tradition and commitment to freedom was carried forward by the Greek people through their successful revolutionary struggle for sovereignty.

Greek Americans can take pride today in the contributions of Greek culture and in their ancestors' sacrifice. The effects of the vibrant Greek people can be witnesses throughout the United States in our government, culture, and economy, as well as in our commitment to freedom and democracy throughout the world. We, as Americans, are grateful for these gifts.

Madam Speaker, it is important for us to recognize and celebrate this day together with Greece to reaffirm our common democratic heritage. I am proud to join in this celebration and offer my congratulations to Greece and Greeks throughout the world on this very special day.

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to add my voice to those of my colleagues in the House of Representatives in celebration of Greek Independence Day, March 25th. All of us who love liberty are justified in noting this important day. Greece is the birthplace of the democratic ideal, the principle upon which all our work here depends. The genius of the American republic and the concept of liberty, which sustained our fight for independence, cannot be separated from the great works of the philosophers of ancient Greece.

Every ethnic group in the United States can claim a special bond to our nation's essence. But Greek-Americans can take special pride in knowing that our constitution's organizing principle, "a government of the people, by the people and for the people" came to our shores from the heart of the Aegean.

Madam Speaker, Greece has been a friend and ally to the United States longer than many countries have been in existence. And, through immigration, our nation has been the great beneficiary of the strength, wisdom and creativity of Greece's sons and daughters. Millions of Americans who can trace their family roots back to Greece have contributed in countless ways, large and small, to the greatness, prosperity and harmony of the United States.

I believe the influence of Greece on our nation is underappreciated because it is so ubiquitous. We see it in our nation's architecture, it surrounds us in our theater and humanities, it is instilled in our national intellect at all of our great universities. We need only look around this chamber to sense how critical Greece's legacy to our country has been.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues, Representative MICHAEL BILIRAKIS and Representative CAROLYN MALONEY, for helping to organize this salute to Greek Independence Day. I know that the whole House will join me in congratulating the Greek people, and all Americans of Hellenic descent, on this special occasion.

Mrs. KELLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues to commemorate the 180th Anniversary of the Greek revolution. In 1821, the Greeks, after nearly 400 years of slavery under the Ottoman Empire took up arms and fought for their freedom. March 25, 1821 marked the beginning of this Greek revolution and their struggle for independence.

For many centuries, Greece, the birthplace of democracy, was subject to foreign domination and political control under the Ottoman Empire. Unfortunately, the Greeks did not enjoy the freedoms given in a democracy and so, with a strong determination for liberty, they began a lengthy crusade. When the fighting began, Greece came under fire in several areas ranging from its Northern province of Macedonia, to a near-war that began over the island of Imia near the coast-land of Turkey. The prospects for the rebels' success were not always promising. In fact, they were aided by several of their European neighbors who came to their assistance. England, France and Russia sent their naval fleets to help defuse the Egyptian navy, which was helping the Ottoman Turks exploit internal strife within the Greek ranks. These nations came together to break the bonds of the Ottomans' tyranny, and help the Greek people win the right of self determination. On March 22, 1829, Greece emerged from their fierce campaign for democracy and created the modern Greek state.

Here in the United States we owe a debt of gratitude to the many Greeks whose labor has helped to build this great nation. Throughout our history, the United States and Greece have shared a unique bond in that both nations have struggled for the right to freedom and self-governance. Clearly, our Founding Fathers had a deep admiration for the ancient Greeks who championed their own independence and modeled the American form of government upon the principles of Greek democracy. The ideology of Greece can be found in

our own Constitution and these common ideals have promoted a strong bond between our two nations. We share a similar devotion for additional nations to join in our mutual values, goals and respect by embracing the rights and liberties we hold dear. Greek Independence Day is a celebration for both Greek and American freedom.

I would like to thank the other members of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, and particularly the co-chairs, my friend, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and my friend, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), for their efforts in organizing this fitting tribute.

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, on March 25th, 1821, 180 years ago this week, the Greek people declared their independence, throwing off the yoke of four centuries of Ottoman oppression.

Greek freedom fighters looked to the American revolution and American democracy for inspiration, and adopted their own declaration of independence. Our Founding Fathers in turn were guided by the democratic principles that first arose in Greece. They took to heart the ideals of ancient Greece, the birthplace of democracy.

This is a day for us to reflect on the vital alliance between Greece and the United States and to pay our debt to Hellenic ideals and to Hellenic culture. It is a day for Greek Americans to take pride in the independence of Greece and in the ancient culture of all Hellenes.

Since its liberation, Greece has stood by America. It is my hope and belief that the United States will continue to stand by its ally. Greece is one of three nations in the world beyond the former British Empire that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict of this century. One out of every 9 Greeks lost their lives fighting the Nazis during World War II. And through U.S. generosity, through the Marshall plan, Greece was able to rebuild its war-ravaged economy.

We must also remember that there remain problems in the eastern Mediterranean, problems between Greece and the successor to its former colonial master, Turkey. We must work to bring peace to the Aegean and the eastern Mediterranean.

I hope that our new Administration will use its considerable influence with Ankara to convince the leadership there to support a peaceful and just resolution to the outstanding problems between our two allies. Most importantly, I hope that our government can convince the Turkish side to negotiate in good faith on the continued occupation and division of Cyprus.

Madam Speaker, again, I want to urge all my colleagues to pay tribute to Greek Independence and to all of the contributions made by Hellenes throughout history.

Mr. SCHROCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 180th Anniversary of Greek Independence Day.

Over 200 years ago, our Founding Fathers turned to the scholarly teachings of ancient Greek philosophers and statesmen in order to form "a more perfect Union." These inspirational teachings about the virtues of democracy served as the basis of our own representative form of government.

On March 25, 1821, these teachings came full circle when the Greeks fought to regain the freedom, liberty, and individual rights they first taught to the world. Now, 180 years later,

the Greek system of democracy is in full force and serves as an inspiration to us all.

The celebration of Greek Independence Day should not be reserved to only those of Greek descent; it is a day that should also honor our own nation's democratic principles.

Greece and the United States have shared a common past. We have fought wars together, we are NATO partners, we maintain sound diplomatic relations. We are successful partners on the world stage.

The citizens of the United States are eager to celebrate the Games of the 28th Olympiad in Athens.

Therefore, all Americans celebrate Greek Independence Day, for it is the commemoration of all that we believe in, and all that our forefathers fought for—life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Mrs. MORELLA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Greek Independence Day. One hundred and eighty years ago Greece began the struggle against the Ottoman empire that would lead to their independence. Americans have celebrated our connection with Greece throughout our history. Thomas Jefferson once said, “. . . To the ancient Greeks . . . we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves [American colonists] out of Gothic darkness.”

Our nations have a common democratic bond that have led us to look to one another for examples for our governing bodies. It is of course the philosophies of the ancient Greeks that inspired our founding fathers to pursue freedom through the Declaration of Independence. In turn it is this same document that the Greeks used to declare their freedom from the Ottoman Empire.

It is not only our form of government that we have learned from the Greeks. One only has to look around our nation's capital to see how we have been influenced by Greek art. From the Capitol building to the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, we have incorporated their styles. In addition, a large part of our culture has been shaped by ancient Greek philosophy and their approach to science. In recent history Greece has been 1 of only 3 nation's that have allied with the United States in every major international conflict. During World War II, 600,000 Greeks gave their lives in the fight for freedom.

The contributions that Greek-Americans have made in communities around the United States are to be commended. Greek-Americans commonly establish groups that form ties to maintain appreciation of their cultural heritage, provide opportunities for social interaction, while preserving traditions and the Greek language for future generations. Additionally, the contributions that Greek-Americans have made in the business community are unsurpassed. Through the utilization of the American tradition of small, family owned businesses the Greek-American community has prospered.

Madam Speaker, the eighth congressional district of Maryland, which I represent, has the 17th largest population of Greek-Americans in the United States. I am proud of the contributions that these community leaders have made to Montgomery County and our nation. I join with them in celebrating Greek Independence Day and urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Greek-Americans.

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join in marking the 180th anniversary of the

independence of Greece today. The winning of independence almost two centuries ago marked the culmination of struggle of the Greek people to restore the ideals of democracy established by their ancestors.

In 1821, under the leadership of Alexandros Ypsilantis, the Greek people fought together to establish Greek sovereignty. The courageous efforts of Ypsilantis planted a seed in the hearts of the Greek people. This seed grew into a flourishing movement that led to religious freedom, a reinvigorated sense of cultural and national identity, and the long awaited return to the democratic ideals born in Ancient Greece.

Madam Speaker, while we are here today to pay tribute to the anniversary of Greek Independence, I want also to pay tribute to the Greek-American community, which offers us a cultural bridge between our two countries. This community justly takes pride that Greek ideals contributed to America's revolution even before the Greeks themselves had the opportunity to succeed in their campaign for freedom. It is important for us to commemorate this day together to reaffirm our common democratic heritage.

The Founding Fathers of our nation were inspired and motivated by the Athenian model of democracy. In 370 B.C., Plato wrote in *The Republic*, “Democracy is a charming form of government, full of variety and disorder, and dispensing a kind of equality to equals and unequals alike.” As participants in a representative democracy, those of us in this Congress recognize our great debt to the ancient Greek philosophers who provided much of the foundation of American democracy.

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in observing Greek Independence Day. As a member of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, I take this opportunity to salute the Greek people for their historic achievement of independence nearly two centuries ago, and I recommit myself to work for closer ties between the people of the United States and the people of Greece.

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Greek Independence Day. March 25, 2001 marks the 180th anniversary of the beginning of the revolution which freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire—a struggle that would last without relief for eight years.

For nearly 400 years, Greece remained under the control of this oppressive regime. During this time, they were stripped of all civil rights. Their schools were closed down, their young boys were kidnapped and raised as Muslims to serve in the Turkish army, and millions of their people were executed as the Ottoman Empire sought to maintain control.

But the people of Greece persevered. They began secretly educating their children in churches and chapels across the country. By the early 1800's, the Greeks' desire for independence was fueled by this continued education. They became deeply interested in their ancient past and their folk culture. In 1814, Greek merchants in Odessa, Russia, formed the Friendly Society which eventually organized a movement against the Ottoman Turks that led to a Greek revolt. Fighting with what was once described as “suicidal courage despite meager resources”, the Greeks won their independence after eight years of all-out war and four centuries of oppression.

In their fight for independence, the Greeks looked to the American Revolution as their

ideal, even translating the Declaration of Independence and using it as their own. In an 1821 address, Greek Commander in Chief Petros Mavromichalis said to American citizens, “. . . it is in your land that liberty has fixed her abode . . . trusting that in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you . . .”

While the Greeks may have looked to the American Revolution as a blueprint for their own revolution, it is us, the citizens of the United States, who will forever be in debt to the Greeks. For it is they who forged the very notion of democracy. And without that notion, the United States may have never come to be what it is today. In the words of Thomas Jefferson, “. . . to the ancient Greeks . . . we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness . . .”

It is my hope that the relationship between the people of Greece and the people of America will continue to advance our understanding of democracy and that the hardships experienced by those in both countries will offer hope to all nations struggling for justice today.

I urge my colleagues to join me today in commending those of Greek heritage for all they have overcome and for all they have contributed in the hope of making the world around them better for everyone.

Ms. SANCHEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the great nation of Greece and celebrate with its citizens 180 years of independence from the Ottoman Empire.

When we think about democracy in Greece, inevitably our thoughts drift to the country's venerable ancients: Solon, the lawmaker who framed Athens' constitution; the philosopher Socrates and his disciple Plato; Pericles, the leader of democratic politics in Athens. These men helped shape our concepts of philosophy, art, science and drama. Their writings and teachings influenced generations of great thinkers and are still in use at colleges and universities around the world today. They provided the basis for our founding fathers' essays and treaties on life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

However, despite the fact that these men helped develop the ideals of democracy that we Americans hold so dear, it was not until 1821 that the Greek people declared independence and moved from beneath the thumb of the Ottoman Empire. This movement marked the beginning of true democratic freedom within the modern nation of Greece, and it is this courageous action that we honor today.

The rebellion began in March 1821 when Alexandros Ypsilantis, the leader of the revolutionary Philiki Etaireia crossed the Prut River into Turkish-held Moldavia with a small force of troops. Although Ypsilantis was defeated, his actions sparked a number of revolts against the Turks on March 25, 1821, the traditional date of Greek independence.

The Greeks' struggle for freedom inspired many Americans, who left our country to fight for Greece's Independence. Our great Congress also sent money and supplies to assist in Greece's struggle for autonomy. And over the years, we have worked side-by-side with Greek leaders to oppose tyranny and oppression and advance the cause of democracy worldwide.

But our ties with Greece do not end with this shared commitment to the principles of

democracy. Indeed, today more than 1 million people of Greek descent live in the United States. These men and women have made innumerable contributions to our society and way of life, and for this we thank them.

Colleagues, please join me in saluting the people of Greece for their tremendous commitment to democracy and the principles that helped to found our nation.

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Hellenic Caucus I am pleased to address the House in recognition of the 180th anniversary of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire. This Sunday, on March 25th, people of Greek heritage all over the world will celebrate Greek Independence Day.

In 1821, the Greeks rose up against the oppressive Ottoman Empire, which had occupied Greece for nearly four centuries. This was the beginning of a successful struggle for freedom and independence. The Greek people sought the right to govern themselves and to determine their own destiny.

It is important that we recognize this day not only because the Greek people are a vibrant community which has made lasting contributions to the United States, but also because the ancient Greeks forged the notion of democracy. They believed in the right of self-governance—one of the pillars of our great nation. In fact, when forming a fledgling democracy, our Founding Fathers relied heavily on the political wisdom of the ancient Greeks. Thomas Jefferson once called ancient Greece "the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness."

This day is doubly significant for many in Greece and for Greek-Americans, because it was on this day in the Orthodox calendar that the archangel Gabriel appeared to Mary and announced that she was pregnant with the divine child. Churches in Greece celebrate the Festival of the Annunciation with pomp and circumstance, and Greek Independence Day is celebrated with parades and celebrations in cities across Greece and the United States.

Greek Independence Day is historically significant in other ways as well. It marks the first major war of liberation after the American Revolution. It was also the first successful struggle for independence from the Ottoman Empire.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that we have taken time out today to recognize this very important day in Greek history.

Mr. GEKAS. Madam Speaker, three years before Prince Ypsilantis and Archbishop Germanos embarked on their crusades to liberate Greece from the Ottomans, the English poet Lord Byron released the fourth canto of his work *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*. Two lines from that work resonate powerfully with me on this the 180th Greek Independence Day:

"Yet Freedom, yet thy banner, torn, but flying,
Streams like the thunder-storm against the wind."

Of course, Byron was a passionate philhellene who tirelessly promoted the cause of Greek independence. In fact, few may actually know, but the renowned romantic poet was named commander-in-chief of the Greek Army of Independence in January of 1824 in recognition of his enormous contributions to the cause of freedom and liberty for all Greeks.

Byron eloquently conveyed the undying yearning for liberty that beat in the breast of

every Greek two centuries ago. Like a call to arms, the words of his poems inflamed the spirit of Freedom within patriots throughout the Balkans. And, Byron's ability to recruit a regiment of liberation troops, and fund many others, served to take these emboldened men to victory. By 1829, the Ottoman sultan had been forced to sign the Treaty of Adrianople liberating Greece and insuring that the birthplace of democracy would be set on a path of democratic renewal herself.

On this day every year, Greeks celebrate the momentous acts that led to the birth of the Hellenic Republic. Over one million Greek Americans join in that celebration. I am proud to do so this year, as well.

Yet, I want to take this moment to thank and celebrate those Americans, Britons and others who adopted the cause of Greece as their own. While Lord Byron lost his life in the cause of Greek Independence, succumbing to an illness he recklessly disregarded earlier to join the Greek crusade, he was not the only philhellene to sacrifice greatly that the Greek people may live free of foreign tyranny. Without all of them, Greece would not have returned to the fold of free nations. Without them the land that birthed democracy, in a very real sense, would have died under the weight of foreign oppression.

So on this joyful day, let me say thank you to the philhellenes, as a Greek American, and as one who cherishes the inalienable right of all men to live free.

Madam Speaker, I submit a recitation of another poem. A poem the late Lord Byron wrote in lament of an enslaved Greece. Could the Commander in Chief have truly known how profoundly thankful generations to come would be for his words and deeds?

THE ISLES OF GREECE
(By Lord Byron)

"The isles of Greece, the isles of Greece!
Where burning Sappho loved and sung,
Where grew the arts of war and peace,
Where Delos rose and Phoebus sprung!
Eternal summer gilds them yet,
But all, except their sun, is set.
The Scian and the Teian muse,
The hero's harp, the lover's lute,
Have found the fame your shores refuse:
Their place of birth alone is mute
To sounds which echo further west
Then your sires' 'Islands of the Blest.'

The mountains look on Marathon—
And Marathon looks on to sea;
And musing there an hour alone,
I dream'd that Greece might still be free;
For standing on the Persians' grave,
I could not deem myself a slave.

A king sate on the rocky brow
Which looks o'er the sea-born Salamis;
And ships, by thousands, lay below,
And men in nations;—all were his!
He counted them at break of day—
And when the sun set where were they?

And where are they? and where are thou,
My country? On thy voiceless shore
The heroic lay is tuneless now—
The heroic bosom beats no more!
And must thy lyre, so long devine,
Degenerate into hands like mine?

'Tis something, in the dearth of fame,
Though link'd among a fetter'd race,
To feel at least a patriot's shame,
Even as I sing, suffuse my face;
For what is left the poet here?
For Greeks a blush—For Greece a tear.

Must we but weep o'er days more blest?
Must we but blush?—Our fathers bled.

Earth! render back from out thy breast
A remnant of our Spartan dead!
Of the three hundred grant but three,
To make a new Thermopylae!

What, silent still? and silent all?
Ah! no;—the voices of the dead
Sound like a distant torrent's fall,
And answer, 'Let one living head,
But one arise,—we come, we come!'—
'Tis but the living who are dumb.

In vain—in vain: strike other chords;
Fill high the cup with Samian wine!
Leave battles to the Turkish hordes,
And shed the blood of Scio's vine!
Hark! rising to the ignoble call—
How answers each bold Bacchanal!

You have the Pyrrhic dance as yet;
Where is the Pyrrhic phalanx gone?
Of two such lessons, why forget
The nobler and the manlier one?
You have the letters Cadmus gave—
Think ye he meant them for a slave?

Fill high the bowl with Samian wine!
We will not think of themes like these!
It made Anacreon's song divine:
He served—but served Polycrates—
A tyrant; but our masters then
Were still, at least, our countrymen.

The tyrant of the Chersonese
Was freedom's best and bravest friend;
That tyrant was Miltiades!
Oh! that the present hour would lend
Another despot of the kind!
Such chains as his were sure to bind.

Fill high the bowl with Samian wine!
On Suli's rock, and Parga's shore,
Exists the remnant of a line
Such as the Doric mothers bore;
And there, perhaps, some seed is sown,
The Heracleidan blood might own.

Trust not for freedom to the Franks—
They have a king who buys and sells;
In native swords, and native ranks,
The only hope of courage dwells:
But Turkish force, and Lation fraud,
Would break your shield, however broad.

Fill high the bowl with Samian wine!
Our virgins dance beneath the shade—
I see their glorious black eyes shine;
But gazing on each glowing maid,
My own the burning tear-drop laves,
To think such breasts must suckle slaves.

Place me on Sunium's marbled steep,
Where nothing, saves the waves and I,
May hear our mutual murmurs sweep;
There, swan-like, let me sing and die:
A land of slaves shall ne'er be mine—
Dash down yon cup of Samian wine."

Mr. BAIRD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to take a moment to observe the 180th anniversary of Greek Independence Day. March 25th, 1821, marked the beginning of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire. Indeed, today should be a international celebration not just of Greek freedom and independence, but it should be a celebration democracy throughout the world.

History tells us that it was the ancient Greeks who developed the concept of democracy. In itself, democracy was a revolutionary ideal, placing the power to govern in the hands of the people. After 2,500 years, mankind is only beginning to grasp the magnitude of what the ancient Greeks achieved. Through dozens of generations, through the rise and fall of great empires, through wars and plagues, through depressions and economic revolutions, through the triumphs and travails of human affairs, one thing has endured: the dream of democracy.

Greek-Americans have enriched our country enormously, in every profession, in every region, in every walk of life. Cities across America take their names from such places as Athens and Corinth and Delphi and Sparta.

And of course, our country would not exist if the ancient Greek city-states had not developed the world's most revolutionary idea—democracy. Our founding fathers studied history closely and revered deeply the works of the ancient Greeks. Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, once observed, "Greece was the first of civilized nations, presenting examples of what man should be."

Although democracy is a significant common value that strengthens the bond between the United States and Greece, we must realize there is more to this relationship. Greece's major role in World War II provided tremendous setbacks to the Axis offensive. Furthermore, Greece remained an important ally throughout the Cold War and the struggle to promote our democratic values around the globe.

Today, the United States and Greece are leaders in the pursuit to promote democracy, human rights, freedom, and peace. President Clinton referred to Greece as "a beacon of democracy, a regional leader for stability, prosperity and freedom."

Greece has been a friend and ally for more than the last century and we will stand by her to peacefully resolve the situation in Cyprus and other challenges that the twenty-first century may bring.

So today, I am proud to join with Greek Americans and the Greek people in celebration of Greek Independence Day, reaffirming the democratic principles from which our two nations were born and which have shaped our world. America and Greece have special responsibilities in this quest—the United States as the world's strongest democracy, Greece as the world's first. But if we engage fully in the changing world beyond our borders, we can build a future in which all nations enjoy prosperity, democracy, and peace.

Mr. COYNE. Madam Speaker, I am honored today to join in this special order commemorating the 180th anniversary of Greece's independence from the Ottoman Empire.

180 years ago, in 1831, Greek patriots rose up against their Ottoman overlords in a long and bloody revolution that lasted nearly eight years. The cause of Greek independence required great courage, perseverance and sacrifice. The Greek people experienced frequent adversity and hardships, but their struggle continued. Many brave men and women lost their lives in this fight, and freedom was not won without considerable cost. In the end, however, the Greek people never wavered in their struggle for freedom, and the land that was once the cradle of democracy was again free.

This day is very special to the people of America because Greece and the United States have much in common. Our shared democratic ideals have formed a basis for a strong and sustained friendship. Furthermore, the writings of early Greek philosophers like Plato and Polybius were adopted by many patriots of the American Revolution, who used their words as inspiration. Even today, Greece remains one of our most loyal partners and democratic allies in the global community.

In recognition of this historic event, the House has repeatedly observed this annual

commemoration of Greek independence. Recently, the Senate passed a resolution designating March 25, 2001, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American democracy".

Madam Speaker, it is only appropriate that we recognize these Greek patriots who shed blood for the same principles of freedom and self-government that inspired the patriots of our own revolution here in America. Consequently, it is appropriate that all of us, as Americans, share in the celebration of this momentous occasion. I am honored to join my colleagues in commemorating the 180th anniversary of Greek independence.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 180th Anniversary of Greek Independence Day. The annual celebration commemorates the day the Greek people took up arms against the Ottoman Empire in 1821. And today, it stands as the defining moment in the establishment and preservation of modern democratic ideals espoused by Greek society.

The Greek and American people share a common heritage that cannot be overlooked. The foundation of America's democracy is based on the democratic principles established by the ancient Greeks. The political and philosophical beliefs of the ancient Greeks enabled our Founding Fathers to craft a Constitution and to establish a government that holds high the ideals of equality and justice. During its struggle for independence, Greece looked to the Declaration of Independence and the American Revolution for inspiration.

The annual Greek Independence Day parade will be held on Sunday, March 25, 2001. On that day, the streets of New York City will overflow with the pride and passion of the Greek-American community. Greek Independence Day is not only significant because it marks the beginning of the liberation of Greece from Ottoman rule, but also because it presents an opportunity for all Greek-Americans to reflect on the important economic and cultural contributions their community has made to American society.

It is especially comforting to see the support and guidance that the National Coordinated Effort of Hellenes and the Federation of Hellenic Societies, as well as other Greek-American organizations provide their community members—ensuring that past accomplishments are celebrated and commemorated, while also ensuring future success by providing opportunities for advancement in education and the workplace.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Greek Independence Day and the common democratic heritage of Greeks and Americans.

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in celebrating 180 years of Greek Independence.

March 25, the official Greek independence day, is a proud day for Greeks across the world. It is a powerful reminder of the strength and determination inspired by the ideals of freedom and self governance, and an important opportunity for Congress to rise and recognize the shared values and goals between Greece and the United States.

Greece is a remarkable country with an exceptional past and a tremendous future. Its proud heritage as the ancient founder of democracy has evolved with great accomplishments like the war of independence, membership in NATO, and partnership in the European Union.

I join my colleagues in recognition of this special occasion and the strong U.S.-Greece relationship. The ties between our two countries are underscored by strategic economic, military, and diplomatic ties, and are continually enhanced by the activism of vibrant Hellenic-American communities across the United States.

HONORING THE 180TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. TIERNEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TIERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today and join my colleagues who spoke just prior to me in honor of the 180th anniversary of the Greek independence. As a Member of the congressional caucus on Hellenic issues, I once again join those colleagues and others in paying tribute to the nation of Greece and its people.

As we all know, as was so eloquently put forth by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), ancient Greece was the fountain of democratic ideals and values for the rest of the world, and her modern counterpart has been steadfast in ensuring that the philosophic traditions of the past are actively practiced.

Today, we celebrate the triumph of the ideal of self-government in recognizing the achievements of the Greeks who so valiantly fought for independence. We also recognize the debt of gratitude that the citizens of the United States and many other nations owe for the ideals upon which the American democratic experiment is based.

Greece, at the juncture between continents, continues to be actively involved in the international community, maintaining excellent relations with the United States, Europe and other nations. We all remember the recent response to the devastating earthquake in Turkey as an example of the commitment of goodwill that the Greek people continually demonstrate. It is my hope that this spirit of rising above differences will serve to inspire other nations as we move forward into the 21st century.

On behalf of the people of the 6th Congressional District of Massachusetts, I wish to extend congratulations to the people of Greece and all of the people of Greek heritage in the United States on this important holiday.

I am honored to have been selected to be an honorary grand marshal in this year's independence day parade in Boston. I look forward in sharing in the celebration once again with my constituents. It is my hope that the new millennium will bring forth many more years of positive and productive relations between the United States and Greece.

LESSONS OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I stand here today in a Chamber that has for centuries witnessed on a daily basis the dreams and the fruits of American independence. Today, we remember that it was March 25, 1821, that the Greeks rose up to seek their independence. As has always been the case, the price of that independence was high.

Greek independence is a matter of special interest to me because of my family and, in particular, my wife, Heidi. My wife, Heidi, is the great, great granddaughter of a young 4-year-old survivor of the Battle of Missolongi. For those of my colleagues who recall those events, it was Missolongi that rose up against Ottoman rule. It was Missolongi that captured the attention of Lord Byron, and it was Missolongi where some of the harshest battles of Greek independence were fought.

When Missolongi finally fell, the survivors numbered only a few thousand women and children, one of them the 4-year-old great, great grandmother of my wife, Catherine, or Haidine, "the forsaken one," as she was known. She was impressed into the household of an Egyptian admiral and relocated to Alexandria, Egypt, where 3 years later, at the age of 7, she came to the attention of a British diplomat. The British diplomat offered to buy her out of slavery, but the offer was refused, until a few months later, she became sick, at which point the offer was accepted and the sick little girl was delivered to the diplomat's family. He and his wife nursed her back to health, they relocated to England where she was adopted, educated, raised up, and eventually married to the son of an admiral. They relocated to Canada and eventually to the United States.

So, Madam Speaker, the story of Greek independence is also the story of America and of Americans and of our families. It is a story of the struggle for freedom, the struggle for democracy, and the struggle for a better life for our families, our friends, and our neighbors.

As we gather in this great Chamber, this cradle of democracy here in these United States, we should never forget the lessons of Greeks and the lessons of Greek independence.

CELEBRATING 180 YEARS OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FERGUSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on March 25, as has been mentioned, Greece celebrates its 180th year of inde-

pendence. I am here tonight to praise the society that represents, in a historical sense, the origins of what we call Western culture and, in a contemporary sense, one of the staunchest defenders of Western society and values. There are many of us in Congress, on both sides of the spectrum, who are staunchly committed to strengthening and preserving the ties between the Greek and American people. I would particularly like to thank the co-chairs of our Hellenic Caucus, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MALONEY), for their fine leadership and tireless efforts to strengthen the ties between our two countries.

Just 2 years ago, after the Greek people began the revolution that would lead to their freedom, one of our predecessors in this Chamber, Congressman Daniel Webster, referring to the 400 years during which the Greeks were ruled by the Ottoman Empire, observed, and I quote, "These people," the Greeks, "a people of intelligence, ingenuity, refinement, spirit and enterprise, have been for centuries under the atrocious and unparalleled Tartarian barbarism that ever oppressed the human race."

The words Congressman Webster chose then to describe the Greek people, intelligence, ingenuity, refinement, spirit and enterprise, are as apt today as they ever have been. In the years sense, Americans and Greeks have grown ever closer, bound by ties of strategic and military alliance, common values of democracy, individual freedom, human rights, and close personal friendship.

In the early 20th century, Greece stood by the United States in World War I when Hitler's war machine decimated Europe in the middle of this century. Greece again stood on the same side of the United States to repulse the greatest threat to freedom and human decency the world as ever seen and, I might add, at great cost to the Greek people and the Greek nation.

□ 1900

History has shown that the historic battle of Crete, in which the indomitable spirit of the Greek people forced Hitler to delay his planned invasion of Russia, was one of the most important battles of the Second World War. From the outset of that war, Greece showed its true character as a nation of courage and honor, devoted to freedom and self-determination.

World War II's aftermath left Europe mired in the Cold War; and Greece, a NATO ally to this day, once again answered the call. Greece showed its national valor and sense of historic mission, joining forces with the United States and preserving and protecting the freedoms enjoyed today by an unprecedented number of the world's people.

The qualities exhibited by the nation of Greece, Mr. Speaker, are a reflection of the strong character and values of

its individual citizens. The United States has been greatly enriched as many sons and daughters of Greece made a new life in America. They and their children and grandchildren have enriched our country in countless ways, contributing to our cultural, professional, commercial, academic and political life.

The timeless values of Greek culture have endured for centuries, indeed for millennia. As Daniel Webster noted, 400 years of control by the Ottoman Empire could not overcome the Greek people's determination to be free.

But I regret to say, Mr. Speaker, to this day the Greek people must battle against oppression. For almost 24 years now, Greece has stood firm in its determination to bring freedom and independence to the illegally occupied nation of Cyprus. Like their forefathers who were under the control of a hostile foreign power for four centuries, the Cypriot people hold fast in defiance of their Turkish aggressors with every confidence that they will again be a sovereign nation, and they will.

The United States must be on their side in both the fight to secure that freedom and the celebration to mark the day when it finally arrives.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to congratulate the Greek people for 180 years of independence and thank them for their contributions to American life.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FERGUSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to switch subjects for a moment to talk about another matter during this month of women's history. As the Republican chair of the Congressional Women's Caucus, I would like to take the opportunity to discuss an issue that affects thousands of women each year, violence against women.

There are two types of violence against women that need to be addressed: domestic violence and sexual assault. Scratch the surface of any of our Nation's most challenging social problems, from crime in the schools to gang violence and homelessness, and you are likely to find a root cause of domestic violence.

Law enforcement officials are reporting that domestic violence situations are among their most frequent calls. Judges find that children first seen in their courts as victims of domestic violence return later as adult criminal defendants. Schools are noticing that children with emotional problems often come from an environment where violence is the norm.

Violence begets violence, and we must break the cycle. We have begun to address the problem, but there is still much work to be done. Reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act

in the 106th Congress was a giant step in the right direction.

Since it passed in 1994, the Violence Against Women Act has been effective. In fact, the Justice Department estimates that violence against women has decreased by 21 percent since the law was originally passed. The law also has been credited with providing shelter space for more than 300,000 women and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend my many colleagues here in the House who supported and fought for this important legislation, both in 1994 and the reauthorization last year. I am proud that reauthorization received such strong bipartisan support, and I am hopeful that our future efforts to address this tremendous problem will receive similar levels of support from both sides of the aisle.

The reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act brought much-needed attention to these issues, attention that will be translated into greater public awareness of this issue and a greater public commitment to solving the problems of violence against women.

But another particular area of violence against women that needs more congressional attention is sexual assault. The statistics on this issue are staggering. A rape occurs every 90 seconds, and estimates show that one out of every three women will be sexually assaulted in her lifetime.

Seven out of every 10 rapes are committed by someone the victim knows. Seventy-six percent of the women over 18 who are raped and/or physically assaulted are assaulted by a current or former husband, cohabitating partner or date.

What can we do to address this horrendous problem? We must talk about it. We must raise public awareness. For years, these problems have been swept under the table, and women have been hesitant about talking about them in public or even reporting them.

I am thankful that this trend is in reverse and the public is becoming more outraged about these heinous crimes against women. We, as leaders, must be willing to bring more attention to the fight against sexual assault and domestic violence.

By focusing public attention on these acts of brutality against women, we can raise public awareness. We can make a difference. We have already seen positive effects of the Violence Against Women Act, but that is just a start.

As the month of March draws to a close, I would like to point out that the month of April is nationally known as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month. I would like to see this designation made official.

Officially designating April as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month would raise public awareness. Violence against women is a large, unrecognized and all-too-often ignored problem in all of our communities. The

costs of these violent acts is borne not only by the women who experience it, but by their families, communities and our Nation as a whole.

This is a national issue, and it must receive national attention. We must continue our congressional commitment to making our streets and homes safe for women and children.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

A TRIBUTE TO GOVERNOR JOAN FINNEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to convey my thoughts and prayers for the former governor of our State, Governor Joan Finney, and her family. Last month, Governor Finney was diagnosed with liver cancer. I wish her strength and courage as she fights this devastating disease.

Governor Finney has had a long and distinguished career in service to the public. She was a trailblazer for women in elective office, and her example has served as inspiration and a role model for others in our State and around the country.

Joan Finney served our State for 16 years as Kansas Treasurer. She started her career as a Republican and switched to become a Democrat.

In 1990, she became the first woman ever elected governor of our State. Governor Finney is truly a woman of the people.

Throughout her years of public service, she was able to connect to everyday Kansans in a way all of us who hold elective office can respect and admire.

I was privileged to serve in the Kansas Senate during Governor Finney's term as governor. During that time, she always had the well-being of the people of our State as her priority.

While we sometimes disagreed, I always knew where the Governor stood on each and every issue. She was honest and straightforward. No public opinion polls, no focus groups, just Joan Finney doing what she thought was best for the people she loved, the people of Kansas.

Governor Finney was always respectful, and her heart was always in the

right place. She believed passionately in her positions and worked hard for the hard-working people of Kansas.

Family is very important to Governor Finney. Members of her family played key roles in her campaigns and in her administration.

I know that her family is with her now as she faces this great challenge. May the strength and goodwill that she displayed in her years as public service now help her defeat this terrible disease.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Governor Finney, to her husband Spencer and to her children, Sally Finney, Richard Finney and Mary Holliday.

Kansans care greatly for you, Mrs. Finney, and we pray God will bless you and give you courage and strength.

AMERICA'S FARMERS AND RANCHERS NEED A NEW FARM BILL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the 276 million of us who do not work in the farming and ranching sectors need to take time today on National Agriculture Day to give thanks to the 700,000 men and women of American agriculture for all they do to feed our Nation and, indeed, much of the rest of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to pay highest tribute to some of the hardest working people in America. I know of no other people who take such great financial risks, give more of themselves each and every day, and who do so with great discipline and dignity.

With the depression that is afflicting rural regions of our country, America needs a new declaration of economic independence, and that declaration should insist that America's farmers and ranchers are not expendable. Their husbandry and stewardship are central pillars of our national security and freedom.

Today, we are witnessing an alarming hollowing out of America's countryside and a wanton destruction of precious arable lands that have sustained us and on which future generations will depend.

Rural America is on life support. The current farm depression, now in its fourth year, is the deepest since 1915. This year's prices were at a 27-year low.

The average age of our farmers is 57 years, and now they are getting over three-fourths of their earnings in public support because the market does not work for them.

And up until today, National Agriculture Day, what have we heard from the new administration? Silence. Not the peacefulness of the countryside, but the eerie solemnness of the graveyard.

President Bush, when he delivered his State of the Union address just a few weeks ago in this Chamber, had

nothing to offer America's farmers. No plans. No solutions. No ideas. The budget that he has submitted so far suggests that agriculture's crisis will be taken care of out of something called a contingency fund. That sounds like it is tangential. Now, how exactly is that supposed to happen?

The President has talked largely about estate taxes, implying that farmers can leave their properties to sons and daughters. But what does that do to earn a living today and hold on for the rest of their productive years?

Anyone who saw the New York Times story this past weekend saw the heart-wrenching story about potato growers in Idaho facing their lowest prices in decades. They are worried about having an income. What will a tax cut do for them?

Then yesterday the President spoke on our Nation's energy policy. But, for agriculture, it was again the sound of silence. America has the ability to convert many of our crops into ethanol and biodiesel, throwing off the yoke of international fuel dependency. In fact, if we just converted our strategic petroleum reserve to a strategic fuels reserve and only fill 2 percent of it with biofuels, we would double the production of both ethanol and biodiesel in this country, helping to build that new industry from inside this Nation.

But the President did not mention it, not a word. But he did express his appreciation just yesterday to the OPEC ministers who agreed to hold price increases to only 7 percent for imported fuel. He thought that gesture by them was comforting. It is not comforting to me.

Mr. President, why do you not offer some comfort to America's farmers and ranchers and help them get their prices up the same 7 percent that you are willing to accept for oil? Why do you not help them develop new products like ethanol and biodiesel? Why do you not tell them what you propose to break them out of the cycle of dependency on government farm payments? Why do you not offer an agriculture policy that our farmers and ranchers can look toward the future?

Let me start in this way. America's farmers and ranchers need a new farm bill that gives equal footing to them in our global marketplace, starting out with contracting rights. We need a budget from the executive branch that addresses the farm crisis and positions American agriculture for the future.

We need to meet America's energy crisis with a major national commitment to biofuels. We must invest in new ways for farmers and ranchers to move their products to the market domestically and internationally. We need to restore a free market in agriculture and enforce antitrust laws.

We must give farmers and ranchers a place at the bargaining table in global trade negotiations, starting with the reform of NAFTA and the proposal for the free trade agreement of the Americas. We must launch a new home-

steading program that ties the chance to retain your farm or to own a farm mortgage and title to conservation and holding and preserving our arable land for future generations who will depend on it.

Mr. President, it is National Agriculture Day. Help us celebrate it by giving America's farmers and ranchers the respect and the attention they deserve at the highest levels.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to address their remarks to the Chair, not directly to the President.

MANIPULATION OF INTEREST RATES CAUSE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today the Federal Reserve lowered interest rates by a half a percentage point. They have been asked to lower this interest rates by just about everybody in the country. Whether they are investors or politicians, everybody literally has been screaming at the Fed and Alan Greenspan to lower the interest rates, lower the interest rates.

□ 1915

It was anticipated that he would, and he did. He lowered the interest rates by 50 basis points. The stock market promptly went down 236 points. So obviously just lowering interest rates is not the solution to the problems we face. As a matter of fact, I believe it is the problem.

Interest rates have been manipulated by the Federal Reserve as long as I can remember, especially in the last 30 years since we have had a total fiat monetary system. So it is the manipulation of interest rates that causes a problem.

In a free market economy, you do not have a central bank pretending it has knowledge it does not have, that it knows exactly what the money supply should be and what interest rate should be. That is a prescription for disaster; and it leads to booms and busts, speculations in the stock markets, crashes in the stock markets. This is a well-known phenomenon. It has been with us since 1913, since we have had the Federal Reserve. We have seen it in the speculation in the 1920s and the depression of the 1930s. It is ongoing.

We have a responsibility here in the Congress to deal with this. We have a responsibility to maintain the integrity of the money. Yet we up that responsibility to a secretive body that works on its own, deliberating and deciding how much money supply we should have.

To lower interest rates, a central bank has to increase the money. That

is debasement. That is devaluing the money deliberately. In the old days, when the king would do this, they would clip coins. Literally coin debasement, stealing value from coinage in the old days was a capital crime. Today, though, it is accepted practice in all economies of the world. We have had no linkage of any currency of the world in the last 30 years to anything of real value.

The economies have functioned relatively well. But just in the last 6 years, we have had eight financial international crises, all patched together by more inflation, more printing of more money. Let me tell my colleagues, I am convinced it will not last, it will not continue.

Take a look at what is happening in Japan today. Japan lowered their interest rates, too. They have been doing this for a long time. They are down to 0 percent, and nothing seems to be happening. Their stock market is at a level it was 16 years ago. We have to decide whether or not we may be moving into a similar situation. I think it is a very serious problem.

We talk about interest rates. We talk about stimulating the economy. But we really do not talk about the problem, and that is the monetary system and the nature of the dollar.

The money supply right now is currently rising at the rate of 20 percent, as measured by MZN. This is horrendous inflation. This is inflation. Everybody says no, there are reassurances. The Federal Reserve and all the statisticians say there is no inflation. The CPI is okay and the PPI is okay. But there is inflation. Because if one increases the supply of money, one is creating inflation.

The most important aspect of that is the instability it creates in the marketplace. It does not always lead to a CPI increasing at 10 or 15 percent. Our CPI is rising significantly. We have other prices going up significantly, like education costs and medical care costs, housing costs. So there is a lot of inflation even when one measures it by prices.

But the real problem with the inflation when one allows a central bank to destroy its money is twofold. One, it creates an overcapacity or overinvestment, excessive debt that always has to be wiped out and cleaned out of the situation, or economic growth cannot be resumed. Japan has not permitted this to happen, and economic growth has not resumed. That is the most important aspect because that causes the unemployment and that causes the harm to so many people.

Now, there is another aspect of inflation, that is the monetary debasement that I have great concern about. That is, when it goes to extremes, it inevitably wipes out the middle class. It destroys the middle class. We are just starting to see that happening in this country.

Low middle-income earners, individuals who are still not on the dole but

willing to work, they are having a tough time paying their bills. That is the early stages of what happens when a currency is destroyed.

Last year, for the first time in our history of keeping this record since 1945, in 55 years, the wealth of the American people went down 2 percent.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FERGUSON). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. SLAUGHTER addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Hawaii (Mrs. MINK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MINK of Hawaii addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

PUBLICATION OF THE RULES OF THE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE 107TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to transmit herewith the Rules of Procedure for the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence for the 107th Congress. The enclosed rules were adopted by the Committee, Thursday, March 1, 2001.

Pursuant to rule XI, clause 2(a)(2) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, I request that the enclosed Rules of Procedure be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

1. SUBCOMMITTEES

(a) Generally

(1) Creation of subcommittees and the working group shall be by majority vote of the Committee.

(2) Subcommittees and the working group shall deal with such legislation and oversight of programs and policies as the Committee may direct.

(3) Subcommittees and the working group shall be governed by these rules.

For purposes of these rules, any reference herein to the "Committee" shall be interpreted to include subcommittees and the working group, unless otherwise specifically provided.

(b) Establishment of Subcommittees

The Committee establishes the following subcommittees:

(1) Subcommittee on Human Intelligence, Analysis, and Counterintelligence;

(2) Subcommittee on Technical and Tactical Intelligence; and

(3) Subcommittee on Intelligence Policy and National Security.

For purposes of these rules, any reference herein to the "Committee" shall be inter-

preted to include subcommittees, unless otherwise specifically provided.

(c) Establishment of Working Group

(1) The Committee establishes the Working Group on Terrorism and Homeland Security (hereinafter referred to as the "working group"). For purposes of these rules, any reference to the "Committee" shall be interpreted to include the Working Group, unless otherwise specifically provided.

(2) The working group may not authorize or issue a subpoena.

(d) Subcommittee Membership

(1) Generally. Each Member of the Committee may be assigned to at least one of the three subcommittees and the working group.

(2) Ex Officio Membership. In the event that the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the full Committee do not choose to sit as regular voting members of one or more of the subcommittees, each is authorized to sit as an ex officio Member of the subcommittees or the working group and participate in the work of the subcommittees or the working group. When sitting ex officio, however, they—

(A) shall not have a vote in the subcommittee or in the working group; and

(B) shall not be counted for purposes of determining a quorum.

2. MEETING DAY

(a) Regular Meeting Day for the Full Committee

(1) Generally. The regular meeting day of the Committee for the transaction of Committee business shall be the first Wednesday of each month, unless otherwise directed by the Chairman.

(2) Notice Required. Such regular business meetings shall not occur, unless Members are provided reasonable notice under these rules.

(a) Regular Meeting Day for Subcommittees or Working Group

There is no regular meeting day for subcommittees or the working group.

3. NOTICE FOR MEETINGS

(a) Generally

In the case of any meeting of the Committee, the Chief Clerk of the Committee shall provide reasonable notice to every Member of the Committee. Such notice shall provide the time and place of the meeting.

(b) Definition

For purposes of this rule, "reasonable notice" means:

(1) written notification;

(2) delivered by facsimile transmission or regular mail, which is

(A) delivered no less than 24 hours prior to the event for which notice is being given, if the event is to be held in Washington, DC; or

(B) delivered no less than 48 hours prior to the event for which notice is being given, if the event is to be held outside Washington, DC.

(c) Exception

In extraordinary circumstances only, the Chairman may, after consulting with the Ranking Minority Member, call a meeting of the committee without providing notice, as defined in subparagraph (b), to Members of the Committee.

4. PREPARATIONS FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(a) Generally

Designated Committee Staff, as directed by the Chairman, shall brief Members of the Committee at a time sufficiently prior to any Committee meeting in order to:

(1) assist Committee Members in preparation for such meeting; and

(2) determine which matters Members wish considered during any meeting.

(b) Briefing Materials

(1) Such a briefing shall, at the request of a Member, include a list of all pertinent pa-

pers, and such other materials, that have been obtained by the Committee that bear on matters to be considered at the meeting; and

(2) The staff director shall also recommend to the Chairman any testimony, papers, or other materials to be presented to the Committee at any meetings of the Committee.

5. OPEN MEETINGS

(a) Generally

Pursuant to Rule XI of the House, but subject to the limitations of subsection (b), Committee meetings held for the transaction of business, and Committee hearings, shall be open to the public.

(b) Exceptions

Any meeting or portion thereof, for the transaction of business, including the markup of legislation, or any hearing or portion thereof, shall be closed to the public, if:

(1) the Committee determines by record vote, in open session with a majority of the Committee present, that disclosure of the matters to be discussed may:

(A) endanger national security;

(B) compromise sensitive law enforcement information;

(C) tend to defame, degrade, or incriminate any person; or

(D) otherwise violate any law or Rule of the House.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a vote to close a Committee hearing, pursuant to this subsection and House Rule XI shall be taken in open session—

(A) with a majority of the Committee being present; or

(B) pursuant to House Rule X, clause 11(d)(2), regardless of whether a majority is present, so long as at least two Members of the Committee are present, one of whom is a member of the Minority, and votes upon the motion.

(c) Briefings

All Committee briefings shall be closed to the public.

6. QUORUM

(a) Hearings

For purposes of taking testimony, or receiving evidence, a quorum shall consist of two Committee Members.

(b) Other Committee Proceedings

For purposes of the transaction of all other Committee business, other than the consideration of a motion to close a hearing as described in rule 5(b)(2)(B), a quorum shall consist of a majority of Members.

7. REPORTING RECORD VOTES

Whenever the Committee reports any measure or matter by record vote, the report of the Committee upon such measure or matter shall include a tabulation of the votes cast in favor of, and the votes cast in opposition to, such measure or matter.

8. PROCEDURES FOR TAKING TESTIMONY OR RECEIVING EVIDENCE

(a) Notice

Adequate notice shall be given to all witnesses appearing before the Committee.

(b) Oath or Affirmation

The Chairman may require testimony of witnesses to be given under oath or affirmation.

(c) Administration of Oath or Affirmation

Upon the determination that a witness shall testify under oath or affirmation, any Member of the Committee designated by the Chairman may administer the oath or affirmation.

(d) Interrogation of Witnesses

(1) Generally. Interrogation of witnesses before the Committee shall be conducted by Members of the Committee.

(2) Exceptions.

(A) The Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may determine that Committee Staff will be authorized to question witnesses at a hearing in accordance with clause (2)(j) of House Rule XI.

(B) The Chairman and Ranking Minority Member are each authorized to designate Committee Staff to conduct such questioning.

(e) Counsel for the Witness

(1) Generally. Witnesses before the Committee may be accompanied by counsel, subject to the requirements of paragraph (2).

(2) Counsel Clearances Required. In the event that a meeting of the Committee has been closed because the subject to be discussed deals with classified information, counsel accompanying a witness before the Committee must possess the requisite security clearance and provide proof of such clearance to the Committee at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at which the counsel intends to be present.

(3) Failure to Obtain Counsel. Any witness who is unable to obtain counsel should notify the Committee. If such notification occurs at least 24 hours prior to the witness' appearance before the Committee, the Committee shall then endeavor to obtain voluntary counsel for the witness. Failure to obtain counsel, however, will not excuse the witness from appearing and testifying.

(4) Conduct of Counsel for Witnesses. Counsel for witnesses appearing before the Committee shall conduct themselves ethically and professionally at all times in their dealings with the Committee.

(A) A majority of Members of the Committee may, should circumstances warrant, find that counsel for a witness before the Committee failed to conduct himself or herself in an ethical or professional manner.

(B) Upon such finding, counsel may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

(5) Temporary Removal of Counsel. The Chairman may remove counsel during any proceeding before the Committee for failure to act in an ethical and professional manner.

(6) Committee Reversal. A majority of the members of the Committee may vote to overturn the decision of the Chairman to remove counsel for a witness.

(7) Role of Counsel for Witness.

(A) Counsel for a witness:

(i) shall not be allowed to examine witnesses before the Committee, either directly or through cross-examination; but

(ii) may submit questions in writing to the Committee that counsel wishes propounded to a witness; or

(iii) may suggest, in writing to the Committee, the presentation of other evidence or the calling of other witnesses.

(B) The Committee may make such use of any such questions, or suggestions, as the Committee deems appropriate.

(f) Statements by Witnesses

(1) Generally. A witness may make a statement, which shall be brief and relevant, at the beginning and at the conclusion of the witness' testimony.

(2) Length. Each such statements shall not exceed five minutes in length, unless otherwise determined by the Chairman.

(3) Submission to the Committee. Any witness desiring to submit a written statement for the record of the proceedings shall submit a copy of the statement to the Chief Clerk of the Committee.

(A) Such statements shall ordinarily be submitted no less than 48 hours in advance of the witness' appearance before the Committee.

(B) In the event that the hearing was called with less than 24 hours notice, written statements should be submitted as soon as practicable prior to the hearing.

(g) Objections and Ruling

(1) Generally. Any objection raised by a witness, or counsel for the witness, shall be ruled upon by the Chairman, and such ruling shall be the ruling of the Committee.

(2) Committee Action. A ruling by the Chairman may be overturned upon a majority vote of the Committee.

(h) Transcripts

(1) Transcript Required. A transcript shall be made of the testimony of each witness appearing before the Committee during any hearing of the Committee.

(2) Opportunity to Inspect. Any witness testifying before the Committee shall be given a reasonable opportunity to inspect the transcript of the hearing, and may be accompanied by counsel to determine whether such testimony was correctly transcribed. Such counsel:

(A) shall have the appropriate clearance necessary to review any classified aspect of the transcript; and

(B) should, to the extent possible, be the same counsel that was present for such classified testimony.

(3) Corrections.

(A) Pursuant to Rule XI of the House Rules, any corrections the witness desires to make in a transcript shall be limited to technical, grammatical, and typographical.

(B) Corrections may not be made to change the substance of the testimony.

(C) Such corrections shall be submitted in writing to the Committee within 7 days after the transcript is made available to the witness.

(D) Any questions arising with respect to such corrections shall be decided by the Chairman.

(4) Copy for the Witness. At the request of the witness, any portion of the witness' testimony given in executive session shall be made available to that witness if that testimony is subsequently quoted or intended to be made part of a public record. Such testimony shall be made available to the witness at the witness' expense.

(i) Requests to Testify

(1) Generally. The Committee will consider requests to testify on any matter or measure pending before the Committee.

(2) Recommendations for Additional Evidence. Any person who believes that testimony, other evidence, or commentary, presented at a public hearing may tend to affect adversely that person's reputation may submit to the Committee, in writing:

(A) a request to appear personally before the Committee;

(B) a sworn statement of facts relevant to the testimony, evidence, or commentary; or

(C) proposed questions for the cross-examination of other witnesses.

(3) Committee's Discretion. The Committee may take those actions it deems appropriate with respect to such requests.

(j) Contempt Procedures

Citations for contempt of Congress shall be forwarded to the House, only if:

(1) reasonable notice is provided to all Members of the Committee of a meeting to be held to consider any such contempt recommendations;

(2) the Committee has met and considered the contempt allegations;

(3) the subject of the allegations was afforded an opportunity to state, either in writing or in person, why he or she should not be held in contempt; and

(4) the Committee agreed by majority vote to forward the citation recommendations to the House.

(k) Release of Name of Witness

(1) Generally. At the request of a witness scheduled to be heard by the Committee, the

name of that witness shall not be released publicly prior to, or after, the witness' appearance before the Committee.

(2) Exceptions. Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Chairman may authorize the release to the public of the name of any witness scheduled to appear before the Committee.

9. INVESTIGATIONS

(a) Commencing Investigations

(1) Generally. The Committee shall conduct investigations only if approved by the full Committee. An investigation may be initiated either:

(A) by a vote of the full Committee;

(B) at the direction of the Chairman of the full Committee, with notice to the Ranking Minority Member; or

(C) by written request of at least five Members of the full Committee, which is submitted to the Chairman.

(2) Full Committee Ratification Required. Any investigation initiated by the Chairman pursuant to paragraphs (B) and (C) must be brought to the attention of the full Committee for approval, at the next regular meeting of the full Committee.

(b) Conducting Investigations

An authorized investigation may be conducted by Members of the Committee or Committee Staff members designated by the Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, to undertake any such investigation.

10. SUBPOENAS

(a) Generally

All subpoenas shall be authorized by the Chairman of the full Committee, upon consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, or by vote of the Committee.

(b) Subpoena Contents

Any subpoena authorized by the Chairman of the full Committee, or the Committee, may compel:

(1) the attendance of witnesses and testimony before the Committee; or

(2) the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other tangible item.

(c) Signing of Subpoenas

A subpoena authorized by the Chairman of the full Committee, or the Committee, may be signed by the Chairman, or by any Member of the Committee designated to do so by the Committee.

(d) Subpoena Service

A subpoena authorized by the Chairman of the full Committee, or the Committee, may be served by any person designated to do so by the Chairman.

(e) Other Requirements

Each subpoena shall have attached thereto a copy of these rules.

(f) Limitation

(1) The working group may not authorize nor issue a subpoena.

(2) A subpoena authorized and issued by the Committee shall not compel the attendance of a witness before the working group, or the production of memoranda, documents, records, or any other tangible item to the working group.

11. COMMITTEE STAFF

(a) Definition

For the purpose of these rules, "Committee Staff" or "staff of the Committee" means:

(1) employees of the Committee;

(2) consultants to the Committee;

(3) employees of other Government agencies detailed to the Committee; or

(4) any other person engaged by contract, or otherwise, to perform services for, or at the request of, the Committee.

(b) Appointment of Committee Staff

(1) Chairman's Authority. The appointment of Committee Staff shall be by the

Chairman, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member. The Chairman shall certify Committee Staff appointments to the Clerk of the House in writing.

(2) Security Clearance Required. All offers of employment for prospective Committee Staff positions shall be contingent upon:

(A) the result of a background investigation; and

(B) a determination by the Chairman that requirements for the appropriate security clearances have been met.

(C) RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMITTEE STAFF

(1) Generally. The Committee Staff works for the Committee as a whole, under the supervision and direction of the Chairman of the Committee.

(2) Authority of the Staff Director.

(A) Unless otherwise determined by the Committee, the duties of Committee Staff shall be performed under the direct supervision and control of the staff director.

(B) Committee Staff personnel affairs and day-to-day Committee Staff administrative matters, including the security and control of classified documents and material, shall be administered under the direct supervision and control of the staff director.

(3) Staff Assistance to Minority Membership. The Committee Staff shall assist the Minority as fully as the Majority of the Committee in all matters of Committee business, and in the preparation and filing of supplemental, minority, or additional views, to the end that all points of view may be fully considered by the Committee and the House.

12. LIMIT ON DISCUSSION OF CLASSIFIED WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

(a) Prohibition

(1) Generally. Except as otherwise provided by these rules and the Rules of the House of Representatives, Members and Committee Staff shall not at any time, either during that person's tenure as a Member of the Committee or as Committee Staff, or any time thereafter, discuss or disclose:

(A) the classified substance of the work of the Committee;

(B) any information received by the Committee in executive session;

(C) any classified information received by the Committee for any source; or

(D) the substance of any hearing that was closed to the public pursuant to these rules or the Rules of the House.

(2) Non-Disclosure in Proceedings.

(A) Members of the Committee and the Committee Staff shall not discuss either the substance or procedure of the work of the Committee with any person not a Member of the Committee or the Committee Staff in connection with any proceeding, judicial or otherwise, either during the person's tenure as a Member of the Committee, or of the Committee Staff, or at any time thereafter, except as directed by the Committee in accordance with the Rules of the House and these rules.

(B) In the event of the termination of the Committee, Members and Committee Staff shall be governed in these matters in a manner determined by the House concerning discussions of the classified work of the Committee.

(3) Exceptions.

(A) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a)(1), Members of the Committee and the Committee Staff may discuss and disclose those matters described in subsection (a)(1) with

(i) Members and staff of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence designated by the chairman of that committee;

(ii) the chairmen and ranking minority members of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and staff of those committees designated by the chairmen of those committees; and

(iii) the chairman and ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Defense of the House Committee on Appropriations and staff of that subcommittee as designated by the chairman of that subcommittee.

(B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a)(1), Members of the Committee and the Committee Staff may discuss and disclose only that budget-related information necessary to facilitate the enactment of the annual defense authorization bill with the chairmen and ranking minority members of the House and Senate Committees on Armed Services and the staff of those committees designated by the chairmen of those committees.

(C) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a)(1), Members of the Committee and the Committee staff may discuss with and disclose to the chairman and ranking minority member of a subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee with jurisdiction over an agency or program within the National Foreign Intelligence Program (NFIP), and staff of that subcommittee as designated by the chairman of that subcommittee, only that budget-related information necessary to facilitate the enactment of an appropriations bill within which is included an appropriation for an agency or program within the NFIP.

(D) The Chairman may, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, upon the written request to the Chairman from the Inspector General of an element of the Intelligence Community, grant access to Committee transcripts or documents that are relevant to an investigation of an allegation of possible false testimony or other inappropriate conduct before the Committee, or that are otherwise relevant to the Inspector General's investigation.

(E) Upon the written request of the head of an Intelligence Community element, the Chairman may, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, make available Committee briefing or hearing transcripts to that element for review by that element if a representative of that element testified, presented information to the Committee, or was present at the briefing or hearing the transcript of which is requested for review.

(F) Members and Committee Staff may discuss and disclose such matters as otherwise directed by the Committee.

(b) Non-Disclosure Agreement

(1) Generally. All Committee Staff must, before joining the Committee, agree in writing, as a condition of employment, not to divulge any classified information, which comes into such person's possession while a member of the Committee Staff, to any person not a Member of the Committee or the Committee Staff, except as authorized by the Committee in accordance with the Rules of the House and these rules.

(2) Other Requirements. In the event of the termination of the Committee, Members and Committee Staff must follow any determination by the House of Representatives, with respect to the protection of classified information received while a Member of the Committee or as Committee Staff.

(3) Requests for Testimony of Staff.

(A) All Committee Staff must, as a condition of employment, agree in writing, to notify the Committee immediately of any request for testimony received while a member of the Committee Staff, or at any time thereafter, concerning any classified information received by such person while a member of the Committee Staff.

(B) Committee Staff shall not disclose, in response to any such request for testimony, any such classified information, except as authorized by the Committee in accordance with the Rules of the House and these rules.

(C) In the event of the termination of the Committee, Committee Staff will be subject to any determination made by the House of Representatives with respect to any requests for testimony involving classified information received while a member of the Committee Staff.

13. CLASSIFIED MATERIAL

(a) Receipt of Classified Information

(1) Generally. In the case of any information that has been classified under established security procedures and submitted to the Committee by any source, the Committee shall receive such classified information as executive session material.

(2) Staff Receipt of Classified Materials. For purposes of receiving classified information, the Committee Staff is authorized to accept information on behalf of the Committee.

(b) Non-Disclosure of Classified Information

Generally. Any classified information received by the Committee, from any source, shall not be disclosed to any person not a Member of the Committee or the Committee Staff, or otherwise released, except as authorized by the Committee in accord with the Rules of the House and these rules.

14. PROCEDURES RELATED TO HANDLING OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

(a) Security Measures

(1) Strict Security. The Committee's offices shall operate under strict security procedures administered by the Director of Security and Registry of the Committee under the direct supervision of the staff director.

(2) U.S. Capitol Police Presence Required. At least one U.S. Capitol Police officer shall be on duty at all times outside the entrance to Committee offices to control entry of all persons to such offices.

(3) Identification Required. Before entering the Committee's offices all persons shall identify themselves to the U.S. Capitol Police officer described in paragraph (2) and to a Member of the Committee or Committee Staff.

(4) Maintenance of Classified Materials. Classified documents shall be segregated and maintained in approved security storage locations.

(5) Examination of Classified Materials. Classified documents in the Committee's possession shall be examined in an appropriately secure manner.

(6) Prohibition on Removal of Classified Materials. Removal of any classified document from the Committee's offices is strictly prohibited, except as provided by these rules.

(7) Exception. Notwithstanding the prohibition set forth in paragraph (6), as classified document, or copy thereof, may be removed from the Committee's offices in furtherance of official Committee business. Appropriate security procedures shall govern the handling of any classified documents removed from the Committee's offices.

(b) Access to Classified Information by Members

All Members of the Committee shall at all times have access to all classified papers and other material received by the Committee from any source.

(c) Need-to-know

(1) Generally. Committee Staff shall have access to any classified information provided to the Committee on a strict "need-to-know" basis, as determined by the Committee, and under the Committee's direction by the staff director.

(2) Appropriate Clearances Required. Committee Staff must have the appropriate clearances prior to any access to compartmental information.

(d) Oath

(1) Requirement. Before any Member of the Committee, or the Committee Staff, shall have access to classified information, the following oath shall be executed:

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will not disclose any classified information received in the course of my service on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, except when authorized to do so by the Committee or the House of Representatives.

(2) Copy. A copy of such executed oath shall be retained in the files of the Committee.

(e) Registry.

(1) Generally. The Committee shall maintain a registry that:

(A) provides a brief description of the content of all classified documents provided to the Committee by the executive branch that remain in the possession of the Committee; and

(B) lists by number all such documents.

(2) Designation by the Staff Director. The staff director shall designate a member of the Committee Staff to be responsible for the organization and daily maintenance of such registry.

(3) Availability. Such registry shall be available to all Members of the Committee and Committee Staff.

(f) Requests by Members of Other Committees

Pursuant to the Rules of the House, Members who are not Members of the Committee may be granted access to such classified transcripts, records, data, charts, or files of the Committee, and be admitted on a non-participatory basis to classified hearings of the Committee involving discussions of classified material in the following manner:

(1) Written Notification Required. Members who desire to examine classified materials in the possession of the Committee, or to attend Committee hearings or briefings on a non-participatory basis, must notify the Chief Clerk of the Committee in writing.

(2) Committee Consideration. The Committee shall consider each such request by non-Committee Members at the earliest practicable opportunity. The Committee shall determine, by roll call vote, what action it deems appropriate in light of all the circumstances of each request. In its determination, the Committee shall consider:

(A) the sensitivity to the national defense or the confidential conduct of the foreign relations of the United States of the information sought;

(B) the likelihood of its being directly or indirectly disclosed;

(C) the jurisdictional interest of the Member making the request; and

(D) such other concerns, constitutional or otherwise, as may affect the public interest of the United States.

(3) Committee Action. After consideration of the Member's request, the Committee may take any action it may deem appropriate under the circumstances, including but not limited to:

(A) approving the request, in whole or part;

(B) denying the request; or

(C) providing the requested information or material in a different form than that sought by the Member.

(4) Requirements for Access by Non-Committee Members.

Prior to a non-Committee Member being given access to classified information pursuant to this subsection, the requesting Member shall—

(A) provide the Committee a copy of the oath executed by such Member pursuant to House Rule XXIII, clause 13; and

(B) agree in writing not to divulge any classified information provided to the Member pursuant to this subsection to any person not a Member of the Committee or the Committee Staff, except as otherwise authorized by the Committee in accordance with the Rules of the House and these rules.

(5) Consultation Authorized. When considering a Member's request, the Committee may consult the Director of Central Intelligence and such other officials it considers necessary.

(6) Finality of Committee Decision.

(A) Should the Member making such a request disagree with the Committee's determination with respect to that request, or any part thereof, that Member must notify the Committee in writing of such disagreement.

(B) The Committee shall subsequently consider the matter and decide, by record vote, what further action or recommendation, if any, the Committee will take.

(g) Advising the House or Other Committees

Pursuant to Section 501 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. §413), and not the Rules of the House, the Committee shall call to the attention of the House, or to any other appropriate committee of the House, those matters requiring the attention of the House, or such other committee, on the basis of the following provisions:

(1) By Request of Committee Member. At the request of any Member of the Committee to call to the attention of the House, or any other committee, executive session material in the Committee's possession, the Committee shall meet at the earliest practicable opportunity to consider that request.

(2) Committee Consideration of Request. The Committee shall consider the following factors, among any others it deems appropriate:

(A) the effect of the matter in question on the national defense or the foreign relations of the United States;

(B) whether the matter in question involves sensitive intelligence sources and methods;

(C) whether the matter in question otherwise raises serious questions affecting the national interest; and

(D) whether the matter in question affects matters within the jurisdiction of another Committee of the House.

(3) Views of Other Committees. In examining such factors, the Committee may seek the opinion of Members of the Committee appointed from standing committees of the House with jurisdiction over the matter in question, or submissions from such other committees.

(4) Other Advice. The Committee may, during its deliberations on such requests, seek the advice of any executive branch official.

(h) Reasonable Opportunity to Examine Materials

Before the Committee makes any decision regarding any request for access to any classified information in its possession, or a proposal to bring any matter to the attention of the House or another committee, Members of the Committee shall have a reasonable opportunity to examine all pertinent testimony, documents, or other materials in the Committee's possession that may inform their decision on the question.

(i) Notification to the House

The Committee may bring a matter to the attention of the House when, after consideration of the factors set forth in this rule, it considers the matter in question so grave that it requires the attention of all Members

of the House, and time is of the essence, or for any reason the Committee funds compelling.

(j) Method of Disclosure to the House

(1) Should the Committee decide by roll call vote that a matter requires the attention of the House as described in subsection (i), it shall make arrangements to notify the House promptly.

(2) In such cases, the Committee shall consider whether:

(A) to request an immediate secret session of the House (with time equally divided between the Majority and the Minority); or

(B) to publicly disclose the matter in question pursuant to clause 11(g) of House Rule X.

(k) Requirement to Protect Sources and Methods

In bringing a matter to the attention of the House, or another committee, the Committee, with due regard for the protection of intelligence sources and methods, shall take all necessary steps to safeguard materials or information relating to the matter in question.

(l) Availability of Information to Other Committees

The Committee, having determined that a matter shall be brought to the attention of another committee, shall ensure that such matter, including all classified information related to that matter, is promptly made available to the chairman and ranking minority member of such other committee.

(m) Provision of Materials

The Director of Security and Registry for the Committee shall provide a copy of these rules, and the applicable portions of the Rules of the House of Representatives governing the handling of classified information, along with those materials determined by the Committee to be made available to such other committee of the House or Member (not a Member of the Committee)

(n) Ensuring Clearance and Secure Storage

The Director of Security and Registry shall ensure that such other committee or Member (not a Member of the Committee) receiving such classified materials may properly store classified materials in a manner consistent with all governing rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and statutes.

(o) Log

The Director of Security and Registry for the Committee shall maintain a written record identifying the particular classified document or material provided to such other committee or Member (not a Member of the Committee), the reasons agreed upon by the Committee for approving such transmission, and the name of the committee or Member (not a Member of the Committee) receiving such document or material.

(p) Miscellaneous Requirements

(1) Staff Director's Additional Authority. The staff director is further empowered to provide for such additional measures, which he or she deems necessary, to protect such classified information authorized by the Committee to be provided to such other committee or Member (not a Member of the Committee).

(2) Notice to Originating Agency. In the event that the Committee authorizes the disclosure of classified information provided to the Committee by an agency of the executive branch to a Member (not a Member of the Committee) or to another committee, the Chairman may notify the providing agency of the Committee's action prior to the transmission of such classified information.

15. LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

(a) Generally

The Chief Clerk, under the direction of the staff director, shall maintain a printed calendar that lists:

(1) the legislative measures introduced and referred to the Committee;

(2) the status of such measures; and

(3) such other matters that the Committee may require.

(b) Revisions to the Calendar

The calendar shall be revised from time to time to show pertinent changes.

(c) Availability

A copy of each such revision shall be furnished to each Member, upon request.

(d) Consultation with Appropriate Government Entities

Unless otherwise directed by the Committee, legislative measures referred to the Committee shall be referred by the Chief Clerk to the appropriate department or agency of the Government for reports thereon.

16. COMMITTEE TRAVEL

(a) Authority

The Chairman may authorize Members and Committee Staff to travel on Committee business.

(b) Requests

(1) Member Requests. Members requesting authorization for such travel shall state the purpose and length of the trip, and shall submit such request directly to the Chairman.

(2) Committee Staff Request. Committee Staff requesting authorization for such travel shall state the purpose and length of the trip, and shall submit such request through their supervisors to the staff director and the Chairman.

(c) Notification to Members

(1) Generally. Members shall be notified of all foreign travel of Committee Staff not accompanying a Member.

(2) Content. All Members are to be advised, prior to the commencement of such travel, of its length, nature, and purpose.

(d) Trip Reports

(1) Generally. A full report of all issues discussed during any Committee travel shall be submitted to the Chief Clerk of the Committee within a reasonable period of time following the completion of such trip.

(2) Availability of Reports. Such report shall be:

(A) available for the review of any Member or Committee Staff; and

(B) considered executive session material for purposes of these rules.

(e) Limitations on Travel

(1) Generally. The Chairman is not authorized to permit travel on Committee business of Committee Staff who have not satisfied the requirements of subsection (d) of this rule.

(2) Exception. The Chairman may authorize Committee Staff to travel on Committee business, notwithstanding the requirements of subsections (d) and (e) of this rule—

(A) at the specific request of a Member of the Committee; or

(B) in the event there are circumstances beyond the control of the Committee Staff hindering compliance with such requirements.

(f) Definitions

For purposes of this rule the term "reasonable period of time" means:

(1) no later than 60 days after returning from a foreign trip; and

(2) no later than 30 days after returning from a domestic trip.

17. DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

(a) Generally

The Committee shall immediately consider whether disciplinary action shall be taken in the case of any member of the Committee Staff alleged to have failed to conform to

any Rule of the House of Representatives or to these rules.

(b) Exception

In the event the House of Representatives is:

(1) in a recess period in excess of 3 days; or

(2) has adjourned sine die; the Chairman on the full Committee, in consultation with the Ranking Minority Member, may take such immediate disciplinary actions deemed necessary.

(C) Available Actions

Such disciplinary action may include immediate dismissal from the Committee Staff.

(d) Notice to Members

All Members shall be notified as soon as practicable, either by facsimile transmission or regular mail, of any disciplinary action taken by the Chairman pursuant to subsection (b).

(e) Reconsideration of Chairman's Actions

A majority of the Members of the full Committee may vote to overturn the decision of the Chairman to take disciplinary action pursuant to subsection (b).

18. BROADCASTING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Whenever any hearing or meeting conducted by the Committee is open to the public, a majority of the Committee may permit that hearing or meeting to be covered, in whole or in part, by television broadcast, radio broadcast, and still photography, or by any of such methods of coverage, subject to the provisions and in accordance with the spirit of the purposes enumerated in the Rules of the House.

19. COMMITTEE RECORDS TRANSFERRED TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

(a) Generally

The records of the Committee at the National Archives and Records Administration shall be made available for public use in accordance with the Rules of the House of Representatives.

(b) Notice of withholding

The Chairman shall notify the Ranking Minority Member of any decision, pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, to withhold a record otherwise available, and the matter shall be presented to the full Committee for a determination of the question of public availability on the written request of any Member of the Committee.

20. CHANGES IN RULES

(a) Generally

These rules may be modified, amended, or repealed by vote of the full Committee.

(b) Notice of Proposed Changes

A notice, in writing, of the proposed change shall be given to each Member at least 48 hours prior to any meeting at which action on the proposed rule change is to be taken.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in the women's caucus to add my strong support to the struggle against domestic violence.

It is important for all Americans to understand we are all impacted by this violence, even if we are not directly victims. Domestic violence undermines the very foundation of our American society, the family. And it undermines our quality of life of all of us because

in one way or another our society pays the price, through the increased homelessness, substance abuse, dependence on welfare, juvenile delinquency, and lower productivity in our workplaces that often results from domestic violence.

These negative effects are documented by research which shows that domestic violence dramatically affects a woman's ability to work and support herself and her children. This often forces her to rely on welfare, or even worse, to return to her batterer for financial support.

To help stop this cycle of violence, I will once again introduce the Battered Women's Employment Protection Act, which will help abused women retain their jobs and the financial independence necessary to escape a violent environment.

This act achieves these goals by allowing employed victims of domestic violence, without penalty, access to reasonable time off from work in order to seek legal and medical assistance, make necessary court appearances, and attend to personal security.

Further, to ensure that battered women can remain financially independent, it requires states to provide unemployment benefits to women who are forced to leave their work as a result of domestic violence.

For women attempting to escape abuse, these safeguards are often a matter of life and death. Our society cannot afford to ignore this crisis of violence in so many of our families. Nor can we afford to continue paying the price of its ultimate consequences. I will continue to fight in the 107th Congress to get these provisions enacted into law, and I hope my colleagues and all Americans will join me.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Maryland (Mrs. MORELLA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MORELLA addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HEFLEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. JONES of North Carolina addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because Sunday marks the 180th anniversary of the revolution that earned the independence of the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire. Nearly 400

years ago, after the fall of Constantinople, Bishop Germanos of Patras raised the Greek flag at Agia Lavras, sparking a powerful revolution against the Ottoman oppressors.

Citing the values and priorities that led to the establishment of our own country here in the United States, the Greek commander chief, Petros Mavromichalis, once proclaimed that "in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you . . . it is for you, citizens of America, to crown this glory."

Following the triumphs of 1821, Greece continued to prove itself as a loyal ally of the United States and an internationally recognized advocate of democracy. Greece is one of only three nations in the world beyond those of the former British Empire to be allied with the United States in every major international conflict of the 20th century.

From the trenches of World War I to the barren fields of Desert Storm, Greece remains faithful to the implementation and sustainment of democracy. Most recently in the Balkans, Greece has played a steady hand of democracy in the face of regional unrest and instability.

Mr. Speaker, we depend on Greece more than ever today. As conflict spreads in the neighboring former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece's role as a stable democracy and key NATO ally becomes more important. All eyes now turn to young leaders in the Mediterranean like Greece's Foreign Minister Papandreou to advise us on the path of peace.

A path to peace. Would that we could have one in Cyprus, divided by a cold war barrier that is as ugly as it is outdated.

We look with hope at the new Bush administration and their role in bringing together the leaders from Ankara, Nicosia, Athens to find peace.

Greece is a special jewel of beauty in the Mediterranean from the ecology of Patmos to the vibrant Rembetiko of the Plaka.

I want to wish a hearty congratulations to the Greek people and pay special regards to one of the leading Greek-Americans of northern Illinois, State Senator Adeline Geo-Karis of Zion, who is one of our true leaders. I am sure she will correct all of my pronunciation in the Greek language.

We wish the Greek people well. To Greece, we say to a free and democratic ally: Cronia polla hellas.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCHROCK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SCHROCK addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AIDS PANDEMIC

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of Jan-

uary 3, 2001, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, tonight I would like to begin by thanking Minority Leader GEPHARDT for allowing tonight's Special Orders to be held to increase the awareness of the AIDS pandemic which is reeking havoc on Africa, the Caribbean, and many other developing nations throughout the world. Africa, however, is the epicenter of this human tragedy.

I rise tonight to express my strong opposition to the lawsuit filed against the South African government by 39 pharmaceutical companies. In 1997, the South African government passed the Medicines Act which would allow the manufacturing and the importation of generic life-saving AIDS medicines. Through this lawsuit, however, the pharmaceuticals would all but halt those opportunities; and this is just downright wrong.

While this suit has been postponed at the request of the pharmaceutical companies, it is slated to be heard by the South African Justice Department in the near future. Should this lawsuit proceed, there is a dangerous potential for life-saving AIDS medicines to be pushed further out of reach for AIDS patients and communities throughout the world and for those who need them the most.

While some pharmaceutical companies have taken steps to lower the costs of these medications, and I applaud their initiatives, life-saving medications still remain far out of reach for millions of people living with AIDS. Ninety percent of the world's 36 million people with HIV face a death sentence, a death sentence because they cannot afford medication because they are poor and because they live in the developing world.

For example, in countries like Zimbabwe and Swaziland, the average life expectancy was 65 to 70 years of age. As a direct impact of AIDS, those rates have decreased to 30 to 35 years of age. This is staggering. In Zimbabwe, it is estimated that one-quarter of all Zimbabweans are infected with HIV. In Botswana, there is a 50 percent chance that teenage girls and boys will contract HIV if a sustained strategy to prevent new HIV infections is not instituted.

In wealthy countries, including the United States, people living with AIDS is treatable. In all of Africa, where more than 70 percent of HIV cases are concentrated and where more than 70

percent of AIDS deaths have already occurred, HIV-infected people face painful, painful death, with no hope of treatment because the essential AIDS medications are just too expensive. They want the drugs but cannot afford the prices set by drug companies.

We must not tolerate the current policy which dictates that life with a manageable illness is possible if one is wealthy or if one has money; however, death from AIDS is certain if one is poor.

The African AIDS crisis has spurred a tremendous public outcry for relief, and AIDS patients are demanding the right to live and demanding the basic human right to affordable treatment.

The South Africa Medicines Act provides the crucial legal clearance required for South Africa to obtain affordable life-extending generic HIV drugs. But the drug companies claim that the South African Medicines Act is criminal and unfairly robs them of their rights to unfettered patent monopoly. But I say that this lawsuit is criminal.

Everyone from international patent experts to the World Health Organization agrees that the South African Medicine Act is perfectly legally sound. While drug companies paralyze the Medicines Act in court, South Africans face preventable deaths.

According to UNAIDS, every day, 6,000, 6,000 more South Africans die from AIDS. The continent of Africa accounts for only 1.3 percent of the global pharmaceutical market in part because the average person lives on less than \$300 per year. That is \$300 per year, while the average AIDS treatment may cost as much as \$15,000 per year.

The multinational pharmaceutical industry is not concerned with African profits. But the drug industry fears the growing awareness on the part of American taxpayers that pills cost pennies to manufacture. The drug industry also fears that the growing awareness that a large percentage of research and development costs are born by United States taxpayers, and the taxpayer-funded inventions are often licensed for a pittance to the world's most profitable industry.

The drug industry fears that this growing awareness will reduce the willingness of United States consumers and public programs to continue to pay the extraordinarily high prices in our own country.

While I call on the United States Congress to stand with the South African government and with people living with AIDS fighting this lawsuit, we must also redouble our efforts in ending this devastating crisis in South Africa, in the Caribbean, everywhere where drug company profiteering keeps essential drugs out of reach of the poor.

We must oppose the lawsuit in South Africa, instead offer concrete support to countries committed to curtailing the AIDS crisis through access to affordable treatment.

□ 1930

We need life-saving action, not litigation, not lawsuits.

HIV-infected persons have a basic right to vital medicines for prevention and treatment of AIDS and must have access to drugs for treatment of opportunistic infections. These are infections related to HIV and AIDS such as tuberculosis, pneumonia, shingles and to anti-retroviral agents.

In this debate, it is extremely important to recognize that access to HIV and AIDS medications is only one part of the solution to our devastating human tragedy in Africa and throughout the world. The United Nations' program on HIV and AIDS estimates that it will cost \$3 billion to address HIV prevention in sub-Saharan Africa alone. That is \$3 billion in 1 year only.

We need a comprehensive effort to address HIV and AIDS throughout the developing world. While we provide some support for HIV-AIDS education and prevention initiatives, we must increase development and infrastructure building, particularly as it relates to health care delivery systems and long-term health management strategies.

A severe lack of basic health and economic infrastructure does impede our ability to combat the HIV and AIDS crisis in Africa, the Caribbean and throughout the world. Building the bridge between public and private sectors and bringing foreign investors to the table is also central to our strategy in eradicating this disease. These are the crucial elements that are called for in the AIDS Marshall Plan.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my predecessor, Congressman Ron Delums, for his clarity on this issue and his vision in determining a comprehensive response, and for beating the drug in every village, in every community and on every continent.

This bridge must be built swiftly, otherwise our efforts will be for naught. The AIDS Marshall Plan and the World Bank AIDS trust fund provide a road map that leads to that bridge.

Finally, heavily affected HIV and AIDS countries must receive complete multilateral and bilateral debt cancellation this year so they can respond to this crisis effectively. AIDS is decimating the continent of Africa and leaving behind millions of orphans in its wake. By 2010, there will be more AIDS orphans in Africa than there are children in America's public schools. This is truly mind boggling.

We cannot sacrifice this generation of children on the altar of indifference. The AIDS epidemic has cut life expectancy by 25 years in some countries. It is a crisis of biblical proportions in Africa and puts the very survival of the continent at stake.

This is not only a humanitarian crisis, it is a looming economic, political and social catastrophe. It is a national security threat. We must continue to raise awareness about the global crisis and this deadly disease and escalate

our efforts to find solutions. HIV-AIDS is not a Democratic or Republican issue. It is a disease that threatens the entire human family.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress must continue its bipartisan efforts as we began last year under the strong leadership of the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH) and my colleagues in the Black Caucus and the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN), who chairs the Congressional Black Caucus' Health Brain Trust. She is a physician from the Virgin Islands, a region of our world where the epidemic is second in its hardest hit numbers in terms of infection rates.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, this issue of the HIV and AIDS pandemic is one that needs to be on the forefront of our agenda every day. I want to use this time to publicly applaud my colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), for reserving this hour to focus on this issue on the floor of the House, and for her hard work and all of the leadership she has given to the issue of international AIDS.

This Special Order is timely. On the one hand it is timely because of the unfortunate and misguided South Africa case, and on the other hand because of the recent commendable responses by several pharmaceutical companies to the pandemic and the need to make treatment accessible.

Because it does not get much focus, Mr. Speaker, let me use this opportunity to interject some information about my region, the Caribbean. Although many of my colleagues do not recognize it, one of the regions hardest hit by the epidemic is the Caribbean where the HIV infection rates are among the highest in the world, with an adult prevalence rate of 2.3 percent, second only to that of sub-Saharan Africa.

Official estimates show that as of December 2000, there were reported 390,000 persons living with HIV or AIDS in the Caribbean. However, because there are reporting barriers, the real number is estimated to be closer to 600,000. In the English-speaking Caribbean, AIDS is the leading cause of death among men between the ages of 15 and 44; 35 percent of HIV-positive adults are women. A child is either born HIV positive or is infected through breast milk every day in the English-speaking Caribbean.

In my own district in the U.S. Virgin Islands, there is a cumulative total of 380 persons living with AIDS reported since we began tracking HIV and AIDS. That seemingly small number becomes much larger when you put it against our small population of 110,000 people, bringing the Virgin Islands into the top 10 of U.S. States and territories in terms of incidence of AIDS.

Our neighbor, Puerto Rico, ranks among the top five in incidence of AIDS among U.S. States and territories. Major challenges exist in the

fight against HIV and AIDS in the Caribbean, not unlike those in Africa and our communities of color here at home.

Yesterday I was visited by representatives of the Global Network of People living with AIDS, which is a network by and for people with HIV-AIDS in Africa, Asia Pacific, Latin America, Europe, North America and the Caribbean. With them were representatives of the Caribbean Regional Network of people living with AIDS.

I am always impressed by the commitment, despite severe odds, and the tireless work of these organizations, as well as others, and all of the work that they are doing to stem the tide of this terrible pandemic around the world. I applaud them, and with them I also applaud the many community, faith-based, and advocacy organizations that are on the front lines of the pandemic here in the United States where the epidemic in African American communities bears many resemblances to the global one.

It is on all of these shores that the battle must be fought; and the CBC will continue to be an integral part of it, because whether here or elsewhere, the persons affected are disproportionately people of African descent. And while prevention must be the bulwark of our efforts, we must do all that is possible to make treatment available to those infected regardless of where they live, how they live, and their or their government's ability to pay.

That is why we are here this evening, to call attention, one, to the need to continue the process begun last year with the passage of the Marshall Plan for Africa, and the creation of the trust fund. Now we must fully fund our share and encourage our international partners, both public and private, to contribute to create a trust fund that will be large enough to make a difference.

The provision of effective drugs must be a part of the equation. We hear too many reasons why folks say drugs do not have to be made readily available to the countries that are being devastated in sub-Saharan Africa. They tell us, well, the infrastructure is not in place. Some say there is no way to ensure that the drugs will reach those in need. Others complain that the magnitude of the epidemic is such that we will never be able to provide medicine in the volume needed. I cannot say strongly enough that these excuses are completely unacceptable and unsupportable, as is the lawsuit referred to by my colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE).

Our humanity demands we respond on all levels to reduce any barrier to life that this epidemic creates. In doing so we will also be able to address the other obstacles, treating other diseases, such as malaria, sleeping sickness, and the others that also take a mighty toll. Mr. Speaker, we must care about human lives lost. We must care about the effect of those losses on the ability of these countries to grow, to stabilize and to take their place on the

world's stage. If nothing else, we must care about the orphaned children to whom parental love and nurturing have been lost forever.

But more than care, we must do something about it. So I also applaud the companies that have stepped up the efforts to make life-saving drugs available, especially those who have recognized the need to allow some drugs to be provided in their generic form, as Bristol Myers Squibb has done in the one instance. This is the kind of example, Mr. Speaker, that we hope others will understand, accept the need for, and follow.

As one of the companies' spokespersons has been quoted as saying last week, this is not about profits. It should not be about profits. It is about poverty and devastating disease. The nature of this pandemic demands that business as usual and even profits be put aside and that every sector respond fully. If we can rise to the occasion demanded by this pandemic everywhere, including in our own communities of color here at home, not only will we bring this pandemic under control, we will significantly improve the health of people and communities beyond this one disease and far into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me, and I yield back to her.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her statement and also for her major contributions in bringing her medical expertise and her commitment to the body politic here in the United States Congress.

Now, I would like to yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), a real leader on consumer issues, on banking issues, and on women's health issues. She has been very focused in terms of her commitment to access to medicines and to treatment for those living with HIV and AIDS.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join today with the gentlewoman from California and other distinguished Members who are concerned about the scourge of AIDS and HIV in sub-Saharan Africa and around the globe.

I am glad we decided to work on this issue from the outset of the 107th Congress. Much discussion but, even more, action needs to occur in the next 2 years if we are serious about combating the spread of HIV-AIDS and if we want to aggressively work to provide relief to those who are already suffering from this terrible disease.

Those of us here tonight are familiar with the staggering statistics. However, I believe that at least some of them need to be repeated time and again until necessary results are achieved. Since the HIV-AIDS pandemic began, it has claimed 21.8 million lives. Over 17 million men, women and children have died due to AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa alone. Over 36 million people are infected with the HIV virus today. Over 25 million of them

live in sub-Saharan Africa. By 2010, approximately 40 million children worldwide will have lost one or both of their parents to HIV-AIDS.

If there is anyone who thinks it does not affect them, let me just point out that one of the side effects of HIV-AIDS has been the development of drug-resistant TB, tuberculosis. One does not have to engage in IV drug use or unprotected sex to get drug-resistant TB. Just sit next to someone on an airplane who coughs on you, and then you have it. So all of us are at risk.

I find it unspeakably offensive that 39 pharmaceutical companies filed suit against South Africa in order to prevent that country from implementing aggressive strategies to make life-saving drugs available and affordable.

□ 1945

I would say that that lawsuit needs to be immediately dropped. As the world's leader, the United States must set the moral example for other nations to follow.

We have to think about this. We are facing a worldwide pandemic that has the potential of eclipsing all plagues of the past, all wars, can destabilize nations and continents and the world, and has been declared a security risk by the United Nations Security Council. The very idea that profits and patents and intellectual property rights would be placed up here while the health of the people of this planet is placed down here is unimaginable. This is a time in history that requires the people of the world to sit down at a table and together to develop the strategies that will end this threat.

I welcome the news that the Bush administration will honor the policies implemented by the Clinton administration on the subject of the access to drugs in developing countries, or at least in sub-Saharan Africa. However, I believe that there is more that can and must be done. President Bush should use existing authority to give the World Health Organization the right to use HIV/AIDS patents where the United States Government has rights to those inventions.

Great progress has been made in developing products to treat HIV and AIDS, and many of those products were developed with taxpayer funding. These publicly financed products should be accessible and affordable to consumers both in the United States and in other countries. Along with the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON), the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), I wrote to President Clinton on this subject last year and intend to raise this issue again with President Bush.

A recent Washington Post editorial stated, "The administration should lead an international effort to clarify poor countries' right to fight emergencies with generic drugs, and it should declare its sympathy for the South African government in the pend-

ing case." The editorial went on to say that Robert Zoellick, the U.S. Trade Representative, should come out publicly and declare this administration's support for the Clinton administration's executive order on pharmaceuticals for sub-Saharan Africa.

The Congress and the administration need to work together to form a budget that includes increased HIV/AIDS funding for numerous programs. We also have a number of legislative initiatives that deserve action.

We need full funding for the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund legislation sponsored by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. LEACH). With this bill, which is a public-private partnership dedicated to fighting HIV/AIDS and developing vaccines, we have the ability to leverage more than \$1 billion in U.S. contributions. This bill was authorized for 2 years and funded for this year, and we need to make sure it is included in our appropriations priorities this year.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS) for her work and for reintroducing the HIV/AIDS Medicines for Poor Countries Act, of which I am an original cosponsor, and which would make it illegal for the United States Government to use the TRIPS agreement, the World Trade Organization agreement, to challenge another country's efforts to make HIV/AIDS drugs available at lower prices. The bill would also prohibit any agency of the U.S. Government from using Federal funds to seek to revoke any law or policy of a developing country that promotes access to HIV/AIDS medicines. Finally, the bill would require the U.S. to urge the World Trade Organization to exempt developing countries from the application of provisions of the TRIPS agreement that restrict their ability to make HIV/AIDS medicines available to their populations at affordable prices.

The Congress, President Bush and his Trade Representative have a responsibility to South Africa and to the rest of the world. It should be the policy of this administration and this Congress to denounce efforts that limit access to lifesaving drugs and to attack the AIDS crisis to the fullest extent. Anything less would be unconscionable.

Ms. LEE. I thank the gentlewoman from Illinois for a very clear, very passionate statement and for her consistent work on behalf of all humanity.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS), a sponsor of the Affordable HIV/AIDS Medicines for Poor Countries Act. I also want to make sure that we recognize her tonight for actually leading the Congressional Black Caucus' effort in our initiatives on the whole HIV/AIDS pandemic on a global basis, a strong supporter of the AIDS Marshall Plan, and a leader in our debt relief efforts.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from

California (Ms. LEE) for organizing this effort tonight to address this critical issue of the global HIV/AIDS pandemic. I would like to also thank all of my colleagues who have extended their day to be here this evening to help draw additional attention to this issue.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic is having a severe impact on many developing countries, especially those in sub-Saharan Africa. Approximately 17 million Africans have died of AIDS, including 2.4 million who lost their lives in the year 2000 and an estimated 25 million people in sub-Saharan Africa are living with HIV. In South Africa alone, over 4 million people are living with HIV. That is almost 10 percent of the country's population.

In 1997, the South African government passed a law to make HIV/AIDS drugs more affordable and available for its people. This law allows the importation of commercial drugs from sources other than the manufacturers, a practice called parallel importing, and authorizes the South African government to license local companies to manufacture generic drugs, a practice called compulsory licensing.

International pharmaceutical companies opposed this law, and no less than 39 pharmaceutical companies sued the South African government to block its implementation. Hearings on this lawsuit are scheduled to resume in April. Two of the largest companies participating in the lawsuit, Merck and Bristol-Myers Squibb, have recently cut the prices they charge African countries for their AIDS drugs, but their prices remain well beyond the reach of the people of South Africa.

I urge all 39 pharmaceutical companies to drop this case before the trial resumes next month. It is absolutely unconscionable that some of the world's wealthiest corporations are trying to prevent an African country from manufacturing or purchasing life-saving medicines. These are the very same corporations that have steadfastly refused to make HIV/AIDS medicines available to impoverished people in sub-Saharan Africa at reasonable prices. It is time to let African countries take care of their people.

The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, known as TRIPS, is one of the international agreements enforced by the World Trade Organization, commonly referred to as WTO. The TRIPS agreement allows pharmaceutical companies to use their patents to prevent poor countries from producing and distributing affordable HIV/AIDS medicines. As a result of the TRIPS agreement and pressure from the pharmaceutical companies, many people in developing countries have been denied lifesaving HIV/AIDS medicines because they simply cannot afford to pay the prices these companies demand.

On March 7, 2001, I introduced H.R. 933, the Affordable HIV/AIDS Medicines for Poor Countries Act. This bill would allow developing countries faced with

an HIV/AIDS crisis to enact legislation to expand the availability and affordability of HIV/AIDS medicines without worrying about whether the U.S. Government, the WTO or the multinational pharmaceutical companies will challenge their laws. This bill has over 35 cosponsors; and, of course, I urge all of my colleagues to join me and support H.R. 933.

It would be indefensible for the WTO, which is dominated by the world's richest multinational companies, to deny poor people in the world's poorest countries simple life-prolonging medicines. It would also be indefensible for the United States to support pharmaceutical companies' efforts to prevent poor countries from making AIDS medicines available to their people.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to close by saying, many of us spent a considerable amount of our time working to dismantle apartheid in South Africa. Many of us were involved at the State level in tremendous divestment of our pension funds from companies that were doing business in South Africa. Some of my colleagues who were here in Congress, I think, led by Congressman Ron Dellums, produced the sanctions bill on South Africa and basically helped to draw attention to what was going on there around the world. We were leaders and we helped to galvanize the world community on the atrocities of South Africa.

Mr. Speaker, we did not do that work to simply stand by and watch all of these people who suffered for so many years, who fought and died for the right just to live in their country, who fought and died for the right to vote, who fought and died to release political prisoners from prison, we did not do all of that work, joining with this world effort, to stand by and watch 39 pharmaceutical companies try and enforce their intellectual property right and then, after they are confronted by the world activist community, say, "Okay, we're going to reduce the price of drugs, but the court case remains open."

Mr. Speaker, we will once again join hands around the world, and just as we fought and we won on the issue of apartheid in South Africa, just as we fought for the release of Nelson Mandela and all of the political prisoners, just as we fought for the right for the ANC to determine the direction for the people of South Africa, we will fight to make sure that people in South Africa and other parts of sub-Saharan Africa and people in other developing nations are not denied the right to simply live because pharmaceutical companies, protecting their intellectual property rights, their patent rights, will not allow them to have access to the medicines they need to live.

I would like to send a signal and a warning to the pharmaceuticals: You cannot get away with tokenism, knowing it is not enough to reduce the price of drugs when still the price that you have reduced it to is not low enough.

They still cannot afford it. We want you to get out of the way.

We have seen what can be done in India. We have seen what can be done in Brazil. We are watching them as they deal with HIV/AIDS, as they put together wonderful programs to provide their people with the medicine that they need, reducing the caseloads, helping to prevent HIV and AIDS. We see what can be done if people have access to the basic medicines that they need.

So we will engage one more time in the same kind of battle that we engaged in to get rid of apartheid on this issue. We do not care how powerful the pharmaceuticals are. We do not care how many campaign contributions have been made. We do not care what claims they have with the WTO. We will fight, and we will win. We will win because this is an issue of life and death and morality. This is an issue where the people will not be denied.

So, Mr. Speaker, I close this evening by saying once again, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and all my colleagues who have decided that they are going to take time in their legislative priorities and put this at the top of their priorities. They are doing this, we are doing this, because we believe in the right for human beings to live when we know we have the medicines and the assistance and the resources to help them live rather than die. It is a fight and a struggle we do not wish to be engaged in if we did not have to be. But I think, based on what we have seen, we have been left with no choice; and we will engage in that struggle.

□ 2000

Ms. LEE. I would like to thank the gentlewoman for that very eloquent statement, and also for putting this in a historical context for us and reminding us that we have waged war before on a very ruthless system, and we won, and it is important that we do keep hope alive, because we will win this battle also.

Mr. Speaker, let me now yield to the gentleman from Chicago, Illinois (Mr. DAVIS), an individual whose life has been committed to social, economic and political justice. He is an individual who constantly speaks the truth on behalf of a variety of issues here in Congress.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I thank the gentlewoman very much. I want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) not only for yielding but certainly for organizing this special order and for the tremendous work she has done on behalf of all people who are seeking truth and justice, not only in South Africa but throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to join in this discussion with my colleagues, a discussion concerning an epidemic that is negatively impacting the lives of millions of people throughout the world.

Across the Atlantic, millions of Africans are battling with an epidemic that

has ravaged the human capital infrastructure, leaving homes and communities barren. The dreams and hopes of millions of people have been deferred as men, women and children engage in a losing battle with the silent but powerful enemy that is sweeping and dismantling Africa at an alarming rate.

It is without question that the HIV-AIDS crisis has rocked Africa. And, yes, I cringe when I hear that 36 million people are infected with the HIV virus today, while 25 million people live in Sub-Saharan Africa alone.

This deleterious enemy has no compassion and strikes without prejudice. HIV-AIDS will have a devastating impact on the fruit of Africa's future, the children. It is estimated that by the year 2010, 35 million children will be infected with HIV-AIDS. Moreover, in the same year approximately 40 million children will have lost one or both of their parents to HIV-AIDS.

I hasten to mention several socioeconomic problems linked to the spread of HIV-AIDS. Millions of children will be left orphaned; industry will suffer due to the decline of a healthy workforce; we will see the sharp decrease of young adult and middle age populations, which will reduce consumption and halt local economies; we will see the fiscal ruin of poor countries attempting to bear the exorbitant health service delivery costs. Furthermore, communities and homes will be left divided due to the destruction and devastation caused by HIV-AIDS.

In North America and in other countries of wealth, HIV-AIDS is being somewhat controlled. Through collaboration, the road for a brighter tomorrow is chartered. Because we place a priority in stopping this disease in more wealthy countries, citizens have benefitted directly from innovative research and best practices. They have better access to affordable medication, and their quality of life has been greatly enhanced.

Yet this is not the case for Africa. In all of Africa, where more than 80 percent of HIV cases are concentrated and where more than 70 percent of AIDS deaths have already occurred, HIV-infected people face painful death with no hope of treatment because critical AIDS medications are too expensive.

We must unite and work on a solution that provides affordable treatment and needed drugs to treat every African man, woman and child.

The huge discrepancy in the delivery of health services in rich and poor countries begs the question, are we truly serious about assisting our brothers and sisters in Africa? If we are serious about finding solutions to this epidemic, then I charge us to commit ourselves to fighting for the humanity of our African brothers and sisters, at whatever the cost. We must provide life-saving drugs at reasonable cost. We must support funding for innovative research in finding a cure. We must support the regulation of affordable drugs for all Africans infected by this deadly

disease. We must support the development of a comprehensive HIV-AIDS policy for Africa.

As a civil society, we ourselves must unite to confront this dilemma head on, to defeat this plague which has us anxious and on the run. It is time for us to stop running and begin to act. That time is now.

I want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) again for not only yielding but for providing this opportunity to discuss such an important issue.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois for his very powerful statement, and also for providing a road map in terms of what we need to do.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Mrs. CLAYTON), who has been a leader and is a leader on a variety of issues here in this Congress and at home in North Carolina. Specifically, she is working very diligently on the HIV-AIDS crisis in rural communities, and she always reminds us that rural communities have the same types of diseases and same types of disparities that urban communities have to deal with, and oftentimes in greater numbers.

(Mrs. CLAYTON asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), who not only has organized this special order to allow us to express our concern and passion and outrage that we are putting profit over saving lives, but for her tireless and continuous leadership in this area. I am looking forward to the gentlewoman showing us how to make sure we do things in rural America as well.

The gentlewoman has asked us to concentrate on the whole issue of the AIDS epidemic in Africa. The AIDS epidemic has devastated many countries in Africa, leaving few men, women and children untouched. Sub-Saharan Africa has been far more severely affected by AIDS than any other part of the world. In 16 countries, all, all in Sub-Saharan Africa, more than one in 10 adults is affected by the HIV virus. That is one out of 10.

According to a joint report issued by the Joint United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS, one-half, in fact maybe more than one-half, of all children, 15-year-olds, will either die from AIDS or be affected by it. We cannot accept that as normal.

I want to quote from a recent article in the paper that says this:

The question of how to provide affordable AIDS medicine to impoverished people is plaguing governments throughout sub-Saharan Africa, where 25.3 million of 36.1 million people with HIV live, according to United Nations estimates. In neighboring Botswana, where 36 percent of adults are infected with the HIV virus, which causes AIDS, the government announced today it hoped to provide antiretroviral medication by the year's end to all who need it.

However, Botswana does not know how they will afford it.

Botswana has the highest rate of HIV infection in the world, but the country's entire population of 1.6 million is less than the number of HIV patients here.

Their entire population. We need to understand that this is not insignificant. This is a very, very serious problem.

Secretary Colin Powell has indicated that AIDS is a national security problem and an economic problem. I hope this remains a concern of the administration. But, more than that, I hope this translates into real, meaningful policy action that will make a difference in treating those in Africa.

Given the loss of lives that AIDS has caused, the devastation of entire communities and the long-term impact of economic growth, we must step up our effort to fight this devastating disease. With children dying at the age of 15 and with a life expectancy of no more than 45 years for a child born in many of these countries, what should be done should never be a question of other than to save lives. The moral right to save lives outweighs any profit consideration. Saving lives is far more important than protecting the profit rights of the individual companies. We need to accelerate the efforts to increase AIDS awareness in all of these countries as well, particularly in Africa and particularly in rural Africa as well.

In a recent Washington Post story, it was said that information came to a local community some 20 years after the epidemic started, and that information could have saved hundreds and thousands of lives. To demonstrate how slowly information moved, that same article said that it took 3 years for critical information to move from a devastated health center just 3 miles down a paved road. By then, 30 percent of the entire town's population was suffering from HIV, and they need not have had that happen. We have to work to ensure that stories like this are no longer the norm.

Everyone, including governments in Africa, the United States and other governments around the world, must assist in this effort. More support should be given to volunteer counseling, testing and treatment. These programs enable African men and women, not only in terms of prevention but also to learn of their HIV status.

In the United States, people have lived much longer and in improved health with HIV because we indeed have had drug treatment that has increased the quality of life. These drug treatments, however, are too costly and not accessible for most people living in Africa. Until we find a cure, this treatment must be made not only for those of us who live in a developed country but those who live in Africa as well.

Treatment can prolong life, it can add to the quality of life, and, significantly, it can improve the family's opportunity to participate in that. In fact, AIDS-related mortality in this country has fallen by 75 percent because, in the last 3 years, because we

have had added to the treatment, so the mortality of AIDS has decreased.

But that is not the case in Africa. In just a 3-year period there are news articles indicating it is growing faster. In fact, children are being orphaned at an increased rate. Many of these orphan children will end up dying because they, too, are infected by AIDS, of which their parents have died. This is unacceptable to society in the 21st century. It is unacceptable morally. We cannot accept this as being a civil society.

There is a treatment called HAART which is highly effective. This therapy has indeed been found by a Congressional Research Service Report to save victims of AIDS. We should indeed make that available.

The President and Congress must keep this issue on the top of the agenda and find assistance, but, most importantly, the pharmaceutical companies must be urged to provide needed drugs to Africa at a substantially reduced rate. We indeed celebrate and applaud those who have reduced rates. But that is not enough. Drug companies, particularly pharmaceutical companies with these treatments, are compelled to act morally now, not later. Indeed, it is not the moral thing to enter into a lawsuit to protect your property rights while individuals are dying. Indeed, we call on these companies indeed to drop that lawsuit.

The responsibility for treating and hopefully ending the AIDS epidemic is on the shoulders of us all. It is also on the shoulders of the people in Africa, and we ask that they recognize, all of the governments, that they indeed have a problem.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that the gentlewoman has allowed us to speak on this issue.

Let me just say that Africa is indeed suffering from the scourge of this, but I would be remiss in not saying that where the rest of the Nation indeed is getting hold of this problem and indeed moving in the right direction, that five States, including my State, North Carolina, as well as South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi and Alabama, are indeed going in the wrong direction.

□ 2015

These are 5 States that are exceeding the States in other areas. Indeed, poor areas in North Carolina are increasing in the incidence of tuberculosis, as well as AIDS. So I want to work in my State on these emergencies, and I want to urge our citizens and our pharmaceutical companies to respond to the well-documented urgency of millions of people who are dying daily from the scourge of this disease in Africa.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for allowing me to participate.

HIV AND AIDS STATISTICS, NOVEMBER 2000

GLOBAL ¹	
People newly infected with HIV/AIDS in 1999	5.4 million
Adults	4.7 million
Women	2.3 million

HIV AND AIDS STATISTICS, NOVEMBER 2000—Continued

Children younger than 15	620,000
Number of people living with HIV/AIDS	34.3 million
Adults	33.0 million
Women	15.7 million
Children younger than 15	1.3 million
AIDS deaths in 1999:	2.8 million
Adults	2.3 million
Women	1.2 million
Children younger than 15	500,000
Total number of AIDS deaths since the beginning of the epidemic	18.8 million
Adults	15.0 million
Women	7.7 million
Children younger than 15	3.8 million
USA ²	
Reported total AIDS cases in the U.S. through 1999	733,374
By gender:	
Male	(82%)
Female	(18%)
By race/ethnicity:	
Children younger than 13	(1%)
Whites	(43%)
Blacks	(37%)
Latino/a	(18%)
Asian/Pacific Islander	(<1%)
By method of exposure:	
Men who have sex with men	(47%)
Injection drug users	(25%)
Heterosexual exposure	(10%)
Blood or blood product infection	(2%)
Reported total AIDS deaths in the U.S. through 1999	430,441

¹ Sources: UNAIDS HIV/AIDS Report on the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic—June 2000.

² Sources: CDC "HIV/AIDS Surveillance Report" Vol. 11, No. 2; National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 48 No. 11, July 24, 2000.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentlewoman from North Carolina for her very comprehensive statement and for reminding us that this is a global pandemic. We did declare in Alameda County a state of emergency as it relates to the HIV/AIDS pandemic in our own area in Northern California. I also thank the gentlewoman for reminding the administration of their commitment to address this as a priority.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE), who serves on the Committee on the Judiciary. I have had the privilege to benefit from her insights in our travels to Africa, looking at the devastation caused by this pandemic as it relates to orphans and children, also as it relates to women and economic development in Nigeria.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her leadership and the opportunity to join her on this important Special Order that is seeking to put, again, on the national horizon the question of HIV/AIDS and its international impact. Let me thank the gentlewoman very much for her leadership on the Marshall Plan of the 106th Congress; and of course, we want to see it funded again this year.

I do not know if we realize the deep sphere, the piercing of the heart of what HIV/AIDS has done internationally. In our travels in visiting South Africa, we came upon an area in Soweto where, as we entered the area, we were told of a woman who had just been stoned to death because of her willingness to stand up and admit that she was HIV infected. These are the kinds of cultural differences that bar information from getting to large segments of the population in Africa.

Although I would say that I am gratified by the progress that has been

made, it is clearly a necessity that we speak about this issue today and that we encourage and work with and make a strong request to the Congress and to the White House to put this as one of its number one priorities.

Let me also emphasize that this weekend I was able to participate in a community partners conference on HIV/AIDS in the 18th Congressional District in Houston. Over 500 people were present there who obviously were concerned about domestic AIDS, a variety of minority groups from all over the country who have helped sponsor this particular conference; and they too were as concerned about the international impact as they were concerned about the national impact.

As my colleague well knows, we were together at the United Nations when Vice President Gore spoke to this issue, with the support of Kofi Annan and the former United States ambassador to the U.N. It was clear that the members of the Security Council were recognizing that this is a devastating plague. So I believe that it is of necessity that we acknowledge it, we acknowledge the fact that HIV/AIDS has been declared the world's deadliest disease by the World Health Organization. It is expected to grow in intensity in India, Southeast Asia, and in China.

Mr. Speaker, HIV/AIDS has become a plague on the continent of Africa of biblical proportions by claiming over 18 million lives in recent decades. This crisis is having a direct impact on the future viability of many sub-Saharan countries. For this reason, I am delighted this evening to again emphasize the importance of how we can bring about a cure or bring about a diminishing of this terrible impact.

We need additional funding for medication to be made available to the millions of poor around the world, to fight the growing death toll attributable to HIV/AIDS. The impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on sub-Saharan Africa has been especially severe. Since the beginning of the epidemic, over 80 percent of all AIDS deaths have occurred in sub-Saharan Africa, and by the end of 1999 there were an estimated 23.3 million people in sub-Saharan Africa living with HIV/AIDS. That is 70 percent of the total HIV-infected people worldwide.

In sub-Saharan Africa there are over 5,000 AIDS-related funerals per day. That is why when we passed the African Growth and Opportunity Act, a trade bill and, of course, many went to the floor of the House and said, what relevance does a trade bill have to do with Africa now, when, in fact, they are dying of HIV/AIDS. But it was important, and I offered amendments, to focus the corporate community on providing resources. I am sorry to say that we are not yet there with enough resources to help in the devastating pandemic that is going on and the resources needed to provide the medication.

The world knew the size of the coming catastrophe in Africa and had the

means available to slow its progression. Estimates from the World Health Organization in 1990 and 1991 projected a caseload and eventual death toll in the tens of millions by 2000. Yet, we did not act. And now is the time that we must establish the fact of a crisis not only of mind and action, but of heart.

Less than 20 years after doctors first described the symptoms, HIV has infected 53 million people. So far, 19 million have died, roughly the population along the Amtrak route from New York to Washington, D.C. We have pharmaceutical companies who have offered to provide charitable dollars to help; but I believe we need important action, and that is why I am a cosponsor of the Affordable HIV/AIDS Medicines for Poor Countries Act of 2001. It is important that pharmaceuticals begin in a massive way to allow generic drugs to go into sub-Saharan Africa to be able to confront this problem. It is only a matter of funding, and we need the administration and its White House Office on AIDS policy to begin to develop this kind of strategy and work with the pharmaceuticals to now go to the next step and be able to develop these generic drugs.

The administration and Congress can work together, along with the Congressional Black Caucus and many other caucuses that are concerned about this issue. This effort should be led by drug manufacturers and the Congress. It should be a top priority. We could see an end to unnecessary deaths and suffering by the close of this year if we make the commitment to do so today.

The cost of HIV/AIDS treatment for those living in the Third World is estimated to be about \$10,000. It is estimated even if treatment costs were reduced to only \$1,000 a year, it would still be far too expensive for Third World countries. Drug therapies that have extended the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States and other developed countries could cost between \$4,000 and \$20,000 per person per year in sub-Saharan Africa. We can do this. The treatment of HIV/AIDS involves three drugs that, taken in combination, can prolong the life of an AIDS patient significantly, the cocktail. In the United States we have seen a 75 percent decline in the amount of mortality in the last 3 years.

The therapies which use various combinations of anti-viral drugs emerged in Western countries 5 years ago, transforming the health and future of AIDS patients who took them. Since that time, the gap in medical care between rich and poor countries has grown tremendously. We have a crisis, Mr. Speaker, and we can do something about it. Of the estimated 36 million people living with HIV, more than 25 million are in sub-Saharan Africa.

Nearly 42 million of South Africa's 45 million people are infected with the virus, more than any other country. What I would say, Mr. Speaker, is that the UNAIDS update report released last week on HIV/AIDS infection rates re-

ports that in many countries, up to 35 percent of all adults are infected with the disease. The report also estimates that half of today's teenage population in parts of Africa will perish from HIV/AIDS, and the most vulnerable group are women in Africa. Fifty-five percent of all adults living with HIV are women. I believe we can do something about this, and I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and her visit to the South African conference in Durban, South Africa, in bringing back the information.

This is a time now for us to be concerned about our babies, the babies of the world, the babies in sub-Saharan Africa, the women of the world, the men of the world, families of the world. It is time now that we stand and join in with the World Health Organization, this administration, the Congress, many of our progressive caucuses, including the Congressional Black Caucus, Mr. Speaker, and provide a resolution and a solution to the devastation and death.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my democratic colleague, Representative BARBARA LEE from California, in expressing our concerns regarding the ravages of HIV/AIDS on the continent of Africa. For this reason I am in favor of any effort by this body to increase access to HIV/AIDS treatment and education throughout the developing world, but especially on the continent of Africa.

HIV/AIDS has been declared the world's deadliest disease by the World Health Organization. HIV/AIDS has become a plague on the Continent of Africa of biblical proportions by claiming over 18 million lives in recent decades. Unlike the black death in 14th century Europe, which took half as many lives, the means of controlling AIDS were known.

This crisis is having a direct impact on the future viability of many sub-Saharan African communities. For this reason, I am joining Congresswoman LEE of California in support of additional funding for medication to be made available to the millions of poor around the world to fight the growing death toll attributed to HIV/AIDS.

The impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on sub-Saharan Africa has been especially severe. Since the beginning of the epidemic, over 80% of all AIDS deaths have occurred in sub-Saharan Africa. By the end of 1999, there were an estimated 23.3 million people in sub-Saharan Africa living with HIV/AIDS. That is 70% of the total number of HIV-infected people worldwide. In sub-Saharan Africa, there are over five thousand AIDS-related funerals per day.

The world knew the size of the coming catastrophe in Africa and had the means available to slow its progression. Estimates from the World Health Organization in 1990 and 1991 projected a caseload, and eventual death toll, in the tens of millions by 2000.

Less than 20 years after doctors first described its symptoms; HIV has infected 53 million people. So far, 19 million have died, roughly the population along the Amtrak route from New York to Washington, DC.

Recently a drug company announced an initiative to offer a limit of \$100 million in charitable contributions of medicines to fight AIDS in Africa.

I would offer that the drug manufactures and the Congressional Black Caucus should be on the same side in this effort. It is only a matter of funding, which this Administration could take the lead in gathering from the global community of wealthier nations. This effort should be led by drug manufactures and the Congress as a top priority. We could see an end to unnecessary deaths and sufferings by the close of this year if we make the commitment to do so today.

The cost of HIV/AIDS treatment for those living in the third world is estimated to be about \$10,000 a year. It is estimated that even if treatment cost were reduced to only \$1,000 a year it would still be far too expensive for Third World countries.

Drug therapies that have extended the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States and other developed countries could cost between \$4,000 and \$20,000 per person per year in sub-Saharan Africa.

The treatment of HIV/AIDS involves three drugs that taken in combination can prolong the life of an AIDS patient significantly.

In the United States, where the treatment has become standard, the AIDS-related mortality rate fell 75 percent in three years.

The therapies, which use various combinations of antiviral drugs emerged in Western countries five years ago, transforming the health and future of AIDS patients who took them.

Since that time the gap in medical care between rich and poor countries has grown tremendously—our nation along with other should be ashamed at this condition.

Now we are faced with a situation where the world's largest drug companies have begun a court challenge of South Africa's efforts to buy cheap, generic substitutes for patented AIDS medicines.

Of the estimate 36 million people living with HIV more than 25 million are in sub-Saharan Africa. Nearly 4.2 million of South Africa's 45 million people are infected with the virus, more than in any other country.

According to the UNAIDS Update report released last week on HIV/AIDS infection rates in many countries up to 35% of all adults are infected with the disease. The report also estimates that half of today's teenage population in parts of Africa will perish from HIV/AIDS. The most vulnerable group being affected by HIV/AIDS is the women of Africa; their infection rate is far greater than males. About fifty-five percent of all adults living with HIV are women, and this rate is expected to continue to rise in countries where poverty, poor health systems and limited resources for prevention and care are present. What fuels the spread of this disease or any disease is, misinformation, cultural practices, passivity on the part of leaders, neglect on the part of those nations with resources that if engaged would make a difference in the fight to win out over the disease.

I would like to commend Congresswoman LEE for her efforts to offer a clear perspective on the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa. She recently returned from Durban, South Africa, after participating in AIDS 2000, which was the 13th International AIDS conference.

Now, more than ever, the leadership of the United States is needed in order to avert a tragedy on the Continent of Africa. Therefore, I implore my fellow colleagues of the House to seriously reconsider the level of funding that has been appropriated for this critical area.

Many people have asked why this is important to the United States. I reiterate that aside from the humanitarian perspective, the CIA has issued a report that declares HIV/AIDS a threat to our national security. HIV/AIDS undermines democracy and progress in many African nations and the developing world. Left to its own course HIV/AIDS will lead to political instability and may result in civil wars, which may affect the global balance of powers as well as economic viability of many African nations. In many of these instances, our military service personnel may be pressed into service in order to defend American interest in any attempt to bring stability to those nation's that decline into civil strife because of the ravages of HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS like any plague cannot be contained in any specific geographical area it will roll across borders of the rich and poor nations alike. Unfortunately, when this dreaded disease came to our shores many felt that it was a calamity for gay people, drug users AIDS knows no boundaries. With globalization, we also must be conscious of the potential for AIDS and other infectious diseases to be carried across borders.

The World Health Organization estimates that 34.5 million children and adults in Africa are living with HIV and/or AIDS. We must work to bring this tragic situation under control using all means at our disposal as a nation, which includes acting in a leadership capacity to encourage other nations to join in an effort to address this mammoth health crisis.

I would ask my colleagues not to continue to bury their minds under useless words, but to apply our collective resources to find solutions to the problem of HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague from Texas for taking time out of her very busy schedule and making a major contribution to this Special Order tonight.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, let me just say, I think we have heard tonight from many of my colleagues who are indicating that they believe, as I do, that this lawsuit should be dropped and it should be dropped immediately. We have made some progress in the fight against this pandemic, but we certainly do not need any more obstacles to making sure that people begin to receive medication so that they can live.

I thank my colleagues, once again, for joining us this evening.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, HIV/AIDS continues to devastate women throughout the world and nowhere is it more overwhelming than on the African continent. As news reports tell us daily, AIDS in Africa has reached crisis proportions. Two-thirds of the world's 33 million AIDS infected victims live on the African continent. Tragically, the epicenter of this disease is among African women with profound effects on their children. More than nine-tenths of the eight million children orphaned by AIDS last year were in Africa. What can any of us do?

New and inexpensive drug treatments that help prevent mother-to-child transmission need to be employed in Africa. Governments, corporations and non-governmental organizations must coordinate strengths and cooperate in addressing major problem areas, including the critical absence of adequate infrastructure throughout the continent. Local capacity must be developed through education of the

masses, and scientific knowledge needs to be improved.

I call upon the Administration to include \$150 million in its FY2002 budget for the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund. This landmark public/private partnership, authorized under the Global AIDS and Tuberculosis Relief Act of 2000, is designed to leverage contributions with additional resources from the international donor community as well as from the private sector. These funds are necessary to implement HIV/AIDS best practices in countries hardest hit by HIV/AIDS.

While the HIV/AIDS disease continues to devastate humanity and finding a cure seems far into the future, we cannot afford to give up. I will continue to devote my time and energy to finding solutions to the myriad difficulties surrounding the treatment and fight against AIDS.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I commend Congresswoman BARBARA LEE for organizing today's Special Order and for her leadership in the fight against the global AIDS pandemic. Rep. LEE's work was instrumental in the establishment and funding of the World Bank Trust Fund. With her unrelenting advocacy, over the course of the past year, the world has finally, albeit belatedly, started taking notice of the global AIDS pandemic and the havoc it is creating in the developing world. I join her today in calling for a stronger U.S., international, and multilateral commitment to combat global HIV/AIDS, which is the world's most deadly infectious disease ever.

The social, economic, security and human costs of this crisis are devastating entire nations. Increased funding for global AIDS programs must be provided as part of a renewed commitment to a comprehensive and adequately funded development assistance strategy addressing the new challenges facing the developing world as a result of HIV/AIDS.

The United States must take the lead. Our investment in the fight against the global AIDS pandemic not only has a direct impact, but it also leverages significant funds from other countries and multilateral institutions. Non-governmental organizations working to fight global AIDS believe that the U.S. funding for global AIDS programs should be doubled this year, to a total across all U.S. agencies and programs of \$464.5 million. Just to put this number in perspective, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) estimates that \$3 billion is needed annually for Africa alone to provide minimal care, anti-viral drugs, and HIV prevention. Estimates of costs for an effective response to the epidemic worldwide start at \$7 billion annually.

In FY 2001, Congress and the Administration significantly expanded funding for global HIV/AIDS efforts with the LIFE (Leadership and Investment in Fighting an Epidemic) initiative. The Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, on which I have served as the Ranking Democrat, succeeded in our effort to dramatically increase funding for global AIDS at the United States Agency for International Development. Programs which last year received \$190 million for international prevention, care, and education efforts, including programs to prevent mother-to-child transmission and address the needs of the growing population of AIDS orphans, will receive \$315 million in the current fiscal year.

So much more needs to be done.

Comprehensive prevention efforts have turned around HIV epidemics in Uganda and

Thailand, and averted an epidemic in Senegal. We know that prevention and education programs work. The United States must now demonstrate leadership in providing needed funding so that effective programs can be expanded and replicated.

We must also invest in the efforts to develop a vaccine. Vaccines are our best hope to bring this epidemic under control, and we must do all we can to facilitate cooperation between the public and private sectors in order to bring together the necessary resources and expertise.

Unfortunately, these challenges are only the beginning. India already has more infected people than any other nation, over 3.5 million. Experts are predicting that without significant efforts to treat those with HIV and prevent new infections the number of people living with HIV/AIDS in India could surpass the combined number of cases in all African countries within two decades. Asia already accounts for one out of every four infections worldwide. The Newly Independent States in the former Soviet Union are also seeing significant increases in their HIV infection rates. There has been a six-fold increase in the number of HIV infections in Eastern Europe and Central Asia in the last four years.

Developing nations will be unable to turn the tide on this epidemic if even the most basic health care is unavailable or out of reach for most of their citizens. Yet despite such scarcity, community-based organizations in villages are doing much with little. People must be educated about HIV and how to prevent its spread. Increased testing and counseling opportunities are desperately needed. Basic care and treatment that can be delivered in homes or makeshift clinics is essential. And the need for support for the growing number of children orphaned by AIDS looms large.

Access to affordable drugs is a critical piece of the fight against global AIDS in the developing world. In January, I joined with 28 Members of Congress in writing President Bush urging this Administration to continue the Clinton Administration's Executive Order promoting Access to HIV/AIDS Pharmaceuticals and Medical Technologies. We must take every possible action to ensure that people with HIV/AIDS around the world have access to life-saving drugs.

The fight ahead of us against the global AIDS pandemic is a long one. We have no choice but to engage in the fight and to prevail. I look forward to working with Congresswoman LEE and others here and in the NGO community to promote U.S. leadership in the fight against global AIDS.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join today with the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) and other distinguished members who are concerned about the scourge of HIV and AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa and around the globe. I am glad we have decided to work on this issue from the outset of the 107th Congress. There is a lot of discussion and even more action that needs to occur in the next two years if we are serious about combating the spread of HIV/AIDS and if we want to aggressively work to provide relief to those who are already suffering from this terrible disease.

Those of us here tonight are familiar with the staggering statistics. However, I believe that at least some of them need to be repeated time and again until necessary results are achieved.

Since the HIV/AIDS pandemic began, it has claimed 21,800,000 lives.

Over 17,000,000 men, women, and children, have died due to AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa alone.

Over 36,000,000 people are infected with the HIV virus today. Over 25,000,000 live in sub-Saharan Africa.

By 2010, approximately 40,000,000 children worldwide will have lost one or both of their parents to HIV/AIDS.

One does not have to look far to come across scores of figures like those I just mentioned. And, as daunting a picture as the numbers paint for us, there are in fact many things that can be done right now to advance the struggle to prevent others from being infected and to help extend the lives of those who are already suffering.

The numerous drug companies that have filed suit against South Africa in order to prevent that country from implementing aggressive strategies to make life-saving drugs available and affordable immediately should be dropped. I am appalled by the drug industry's thirst for profit and willful neglect of the AIDS pandemic in Africa. These companies have to stop putting profits before people. And, as the world's leader, the United States must set the moral example for other nations to follow.

I welcome news that the Bush Administration will honor the policies implemented by the Clinton Administration on this subject. However, I believe that there is more that can and must be done. President Bush should use existing authority to give the World Health Organization (WHO) the right to use HIV/AIDS patients where the United States government has rights to those inventions. Great progress has been made in developing products to treat HIV and AIDS, and many of those products were developed with taxpayer funding. These publicly-financed products should be accessible and affordable to consumers both in the United States and in other countries. Along with Representatives JACKSON, WATERS, and LEE, I wrote to President Clinton on this subject last year and intend to raise this issue again with President Bush.

A recent Washington Post editorial stated,

The Administration should lead an international effort to clarify poor countries' right to fight emergencies with generic drugs, and it should declare its sympathy for the South African government in the pending case.

The editorial went on to say that Robert Zoellick, the U.S. Trade Representative should come out publicly and declare this Administration's support for the Clinton Administration's Executive Order on pharmaceuticals for sub-Saharan Africa.

The Congress and the Administration need to work together to form a budget that includes increased HIV/AIDS funding for numerous programs. We also have a number of legislative initiatives that deserve action.

We need full funding for the World Bank AIDS Trust Fund—legislation sponsored by Congresswoman LEE and Congressman LEACH. With this bill, which is a public private partnership dedicated to fighting HIV/AIDS and developing vaccines, we have the ability to leverage more than a \$1 billion U.S. contribution. This bill was authorized for two years and funded for this year and we need to make sure it is included in our appropriations priorities this year.

I want to thank Congresswoman WATERS for her work and for reintroducing the HIV/AIDS Medicines for Poor Countries Act, which I am an original cosponsor of, and which would make it illegal for the U.S. government to use the TRIPS agreement to challenge another country's efforts to make HIV/AIDS drugs available at lower prices. The bill would also prohibit any agency of the U.S. government from using federal bills to seek to revoke any law or policy of a developing country that promotes access to HIV/AIDS medicines. Finally, the bill would require the U.S. to urge the World Trade Organization (WTO) to exempt developing countries from the application of provisions of the TRIPS agreement that restrict their ability to make HIV/AIDS medicines available to their populations at affordable prices.

The Congress, President Bush, and his Trade Representative have a responsibility to South Africa and to the rest of the world. It should be the policy of this Administration and this Congress to denounce efforts that limit access to life savings drugs and to attack the AIDS crisis to the fullest extent. Anything less would be unconscionable.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GRAVES). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON-LEE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer comment on a source of poor women's health that is one hundred percent preventable—injuries and deaths caused by domestic violence. The injuries, mental and emotional conditions of women and their children who are the witnesses or victims of domestic violence could be prevented, but there is a lack of resolve on the part of Congress to make this a top priority.

The dynamics of domestic violence are all encompassing and usually starts as emotional abuse that evolves into physical abuse that can result in serious injury or death on not only women, but also the children living in that home.

As a result, the federal government has moved to establish Violence Against Women and training programs that serve the young victims of domestic violence who either experience or witness violence.

It is alarming to note that according to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, between 50 and 70 percent of men who abuse their female partners also abuse their children. Moreover, at least 3.3 to 10 million American children annually witness assaults by one parent against another. Consequently, the children of domestic violence are at a high risk of anxiety and depression and often experience delayed learning skills.

Mr. Speaker, domestic violence affects women of all cultures, races, occupations, and income levels. Ninety-two percent of reported domestic violence incidents involve violence against females.

Although domestic violence effects women across all racial and economic lines, a high percentage of these victims are women of color. African American women account for 16 percent of the women who have been physically abused by a husband or partner in the last five years. African American women were

the victims in more than 53 percent of the violent deaths that occurred in 1997. This is why we must continue to fund programs like the Violence Against Women Grants that also fund projects to encourage arrests of the perpetrators of these most dreadful crimes.

I am joining my colleagues of the Women's Caucus to express concern about the plight of women's health in our nation, but to also include in that debate the negative health effects of domestic violence on our nation's women.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to bring awareness to the specific problems within my state of Texas. In Texas, there were 175,725 incidents of family violence in 1998. An estimated 824,790 women were physically abused in Texas in 1998. Of all of the women killed in 1997, 35 percent were murdered by their intimate male partners. In 1998, 110 women were murdered by their partners.

A new member of my staff is an advocate against and survivor of domestic violence and she offers this message to those who seek to remedy this situation. On March 18, 1990, she made the difficult decision to end her marriage of fourteen years, which was plagued by marital abuse. From her experience she has committed her life to advocating for and assisting women in crisis. "Women often do not want the relationship to end, they want the violence to stop!" Instead of seeing women as helpless victims they are in fact courageous survivors who work hard to preserve their families. The women of which I speak was the organizer of the City of Houston's first Candlelight Vigil in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. She was asked by Vice President Al Gore at a White House ceremony, unveiling postage stamps with the National Domestic Violence Hotline number on the cover, to tell her story.

An example how important federal efforts in this area are demonstrated by the impact that VAWA grants have had on services in the local community. In Houston, we have the Houston Area Women's Center which operates a domestic violence hotline, a shelter for battered women and counseling for violence survivors. The center provides all of its services for free.

Furthermore, this center maintains an invaluable website that allows anyone to access information about domestic violence resources and support networks.

Over 34,000 women in Houston called for counseling services in 1997 for family violence. This counseling included services for women with children and teenagers who have also survived violence. The shelter housed 1,062 women and children and assisted close to 2,000 with other forms of services.

The Texas Council on Family Violence has used VAWA funds for several projects as well. These include the National Domestic Violence Hotline, Technical Assistance and Model Policies and Procedures Project, the Texas Domestic Violence Needs Assessment Project and the Domestic Violence Rural Education Project.

Unfortunately, the STOP Grant funding for the Texas Council on Family Violence has decreased within the last 2 years from \$8 million in 1999 to \$8.5 million in 2000. Because the funding level for the Violence Against Women Grants has remained at the same level as fiscal year 2000, it is imperative that we increase funding so that these vital programs will be

properly funded as we move into the new millennium.

As the public service announcement of the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault indicates, "Most people think rape happens in a dark alley. That beautiful women are the usual victims. But sexual violence isn't really about sex, it's about power. And it can happen to anyone, anywhere . . ."

Mr. Speaker, the Violence Against Women Grants and the Reauthorization of the Violence Against Women's Act are the most important weapons that women and men have in this country to ensure that gender-motivated violence does not continue to increase in this society. I ask my colleagues to support these and other legislative initiatives in this Congress so that we may move forward, not backward in our fight to end domestic violence everywhere.

PUBLIC LANDS IN THE UNITED STATES AND RELATED TOPICS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, for our little night-side chat this evening, there are a couple of topics that I would like to discuss with my colleagues, primarily involving public lands in the United States. As many of my colleagues know, and many may not be aware of, quite frankly, there is a distinct difference between the urban areas of the United States and the rural areas of the United States and even more of a distinct difference between the eastern United States and the western United States. Now, granted, the United States is one country, and we have a lot in common, but the reason that we have a lot in common is because we have the respect where we do not have things in common to understand that we work as a team. So this evening I want to go through some discussion on public lands.

I think the best way to begin this is to talk about a wonderful book that I have just almost finished reading. I would recommend it to my colleagues. As I should disclose, I do not know the author, I have never met the author, I do not have any interest in the book, other than it is fascinating. It is the book on the transcontinental railroad. The author is Stephen Ambrose, and it talks about the major accomplishment that was necessary in this country for the entire country to come together to build a transcontinental railroad, the armies that were necessary to put this thing together. I think really just reading a little of the first part, just a couple of paragraphs, because I do not like to read during my Special Order speeches, my night-side chat; but I thought here it would probably be appropriate, so that we can get a taste, a little idea of the flavor of what was necessary to build the transcontinental railroad in the United States.

In our own minds, we need to kind of put ourselves back 150 years and think

of the United States, a new country, relatively speaking, out into the frontier, a frontier that most of the population of this country had never even set foot on, a frontier which had never been really surveyed in any kind of detail. In fact, the surveying techniques back then were still pretty rough as compared to today's GPS system.

So as I say that, keep this in mind. We need to put our mindsets for a moment back 150 years, back to about 140 years, 1858, put our minds there for a moment and listen to this: "Next to winning the Civil War and abolishing slavery, building the first transcontinental railroad from Omaha, Nebraska to Sacramento, California was the greatest achievement of the American people in the 19th century." Next to winning the Civil War and abolishing slavery, that was the big accomplishment of the 19th century. "Not until the completion of the Panama Canal in the early 20th century was it ever rivaled as an engineering feat. The railroad took brains, it took muscles and sweat in quantities and scope never before put into a single project. It could not have been done without a representative democratic system."

Let me repeat that. It could not have been done without a representative, democratic political system. It could not have been done without skilled and ambitious engineers, most of whom had learned their craft in American colleges and honed it into war. It could not have been done without bosses and foremen who learned how to organize and lead men as officers in the Civil War; without free labor, without hard working laborers who had learned how to take orders in the war; without those who came over to America in the thousands and thousands and thousands from China seeking a fortune; without laborers, many speaking different languages and coming to America from every inhabited continent in the world.

□ 2030

Mr. Speaker, it could not have been done without the trees and without the iron available in America; without the capitalist willing to take high risks for great profit; without men willing to challenge all at every level in order to win all; without men to challenge all at every level to win all. Most of all, it could not have been done without teamwork. Nothing like it in the world. And that is the title of the book, *Nothing Like It in the World* by Stephen Ambrose.

Nothing Like It in the World is the story of the men who built the transcontinental railroad, the investors who risked their businesses and money, the enlightened politicians. By the way, the standout of the enlightened politicians, the political mover of the transcontinental railroad in the United States was Abraham Lincoln.

When my colleagues go out and talk to your constituents and say name the two major accomplishments of Abra-

ham Lincoln, from a political viewpoint, obviously, most everybody I know could answer the first, the abolishment of slavery and the victory in the Civil War. But not very many people out there understand the role, the significant role, of which the transcontinental railroad could not have been built without Abraham Lincoln. In fact, even the measurement of how far the rails are apart was put in place by Abraham Lincoln.

The Union had won the Civil War, and slavery had been abolished, but it was Abraham Lincoln who was an early and constituent champion of railroads. Unfortunately, as we all know, Abraham Lincoln would not live to see this great achievement. Even the scheme of how to have it built, to have the government finance and to have the government put two private companies on two opposite ends of our great country in competition to build that railroad, and their destination was to the final mile of track to be laid which, of course, they met in Utah.

It was the last great building project to be done mostly by hand. Can you imagine the surveying back then to go out into the mountain of the Sierras or to go into the plains of Nebraska and trying to figure out a direct route which would support a railroad, the likes of which the world had never seen? The manpower took tens of thousands of men and women, but tens of thousands of people to be able to go out there and lay that track, just the organization of those thousands and thousands of working people.

If we had not had the Civil War, we probably would not have had the organization in place, because the amount and number of people that we took out there and the logistics that were necessary to put this thing together had been earlier put together through the Civil War. So there was a benefit coming out of the Civil War. In addition to that, people knew how to take orders. People knew how to be foremen.

The Chinese labor, which played a major role, they wanted to come over here. They returned to their homeland, China, as rich people.

It is amazing, as I said earlier, that this was the last building project to be done mostly by hand, excavating dirt, cutting through ridges, filling gorges, blasting tunnels to the mountains; and, as the book says, those tunnels, they would have to hand bore a hole into the rock, and they would use thousands and thousands of kegs of powder to blow the rock apart.

Many times the explosion would just come back out, and they would have to start again. On a good day, according to the book, on a good day these hard-working people would be able to dig into that granite and maybe move 6 inches a day.

At the height of the construction of this railroad, those companies were laying rail for the first transcontinental railroad at the pace a man could walk. Imagine laying rail at the

pace a man could walk. Imagine the accomplishment of this country, of the political system that would allow this kind of massive project to be put together, of the engineer, of the support, of the young power, the young people that went out there because, as my colleagues know, this was back-breaking work.

It is a part of the history of this country. And as I move on to what I want to talk about, public lands, the transcontinental railroad really was one of the most significant events in the history of this country. It changed everything.

For example, my colleagues may not know this, but we had no time zones before this railroad was put into place. Every community in the United States kept its own time. It is the railroads that put time zones in place in the United States.

It is the railroads that allowed one person to have more than one store because they could ship their products from one place to the other. It was the railroads that allowed the cattle and so on to be shipped across the country. It was the railroads that allowed many, many different things.

It changed the entire nature of the United States of America. It allowed America to expand across the lands it had purchased through, for example, Louisiana Purchase and the other purchases of which we had put together out in the West. You know, it is very interesting.

Again, before I set the book down, it is Stephen Ambrose, and the title of the book is *Nothing Like It In The World*. I encourage my colleagues to take a look at this. It is a fascinating book.

By the way, every history class in America ought to have some time devoted to the transcontinental railroad and what it did for America and how it moved us into the settlement of the West and the production and the manufacturing. Every business class, every college in America ought to be aware; and this book, frankly, does a good job of it. They ought to be reading this book to understand what a massive project it was.

Again, our minds are still back, colleagues, around the 1850s, 1860s. The Civil War was just getting over, and out here in this country we knew that the law back then was not that you simply had a title to a piece of land. A piece of paper saying you owned a piece of land did not mean a whole lot back then, especially in the frontier of the West. It did not mean a lot.

What meant a lot was possession. If you did not possess the land, and all of us have heard that saying that possession is 9/10 of the law. That is what it meant. That is where it came from. If you did not possess it, the chances of you being able to retain legal title on it were not very good.

This country, the population of this country was primarily on the East over here to my left on the map. Our popu-

lation centers were right along the East. That is where we saw it. We had all of this land out here. By the way, as we begin to build the transcontinental railroad, then we came from both ends.

On this end, over on the California end, we had no steel production. We did not have rails and the timber and so on. We had to harvest the timbers as they came across for the ties. All of that had to come down and back around.

But back in those days what they wanted to do, what our government wanted to do, what the people of this country wanted to do was to settle the new frontier, to claim that land for that new country, the United States of America. And it is from that intent that the dynamics of much of the difference between the East and the West and public lands and government lands, it is from there that these differences were borne.

Let me give my colleagues an example. In the East, they have private property ownership; and if you take a look, I have some very interesting statistics that I think will help us get the picture of concentrations of people. Today take a look. We know we just had the Census come out to give you a concentration of people. This is total, 78 percent of the people in America lives in the East Coast. The remaining 22 percent that we have in our country is West, this area. But of that 22 percent, half of them live in the State of California.

In comparison, this area of the country is pretty sparsely populated. When my colleagues take a look at the difference in ownership, and this is a critical factor, and I will explain how we got there, but this is a critical factor, when my colleagues from the East wonder why we in the West stand up and talk about public lands and we stand up and talk about the need to use these public lands, you have to understand that in the East your ownership is dominated.

The ownership of land in the eastern United States, as pointed out here, is dominated by private ownership. In the East, it is almost all private property. In the West, ownership is dominated by government ownership; and this map that I have to my left demonstrates that. The color on the map, whether it is the light green or the dark green or the red, the colors on that map indicate or show, demonstrate land that is owned by the government.

The white parts of the country is private ownership, private land ownership. Take a look at this in the West.

Now, the district that I represent is the 3rd Congressional District of Colorado. I would like to point it out here. That district goes right along the edge, and it goes from Wyoming to the State of New Mexico.

My district, most of my colleagues have been in my district. If my colleagues have ever skied in Colorado, if my colleagues have ever vacationed in the mountains, the odds are you were

in my district here in the 3rd Congressional District. That district is larger than the entire State of Florida, but my colleagues can see it is on my eastern boundary.

On my eastern boundary, where the difference between public land ownership to the West and private ownership to the East meet, they meet right on my district line. They meet on the line as it goes out further to the north and further to the south.

How is it? How in the history of our country did we come up where primarily you have private ownership in the East and you have primarily government ownership in the West? It is the very factor that is talked about in this book. It is the very factor of talking about settling the West. Go West, young man. Go West. That was the theory, because our population was so populated in the East as it is today.

The government decided to give some kind of incentive for people to leave the safety of the cities in the East where commerce was healthy, where there was sophistication, so-called, we put that in quotes, where there was movement and populations and lots of thriving economy. You had to be able to give some kind of incentive to get people to leave the populations of the East and head West to possess the land.

The transcontinental railroad was just a part of that. But even before that, again we are in that 1858 to 1865 time period, in 1862, the Homestead Law was enacted by Congress. Most of my colleagues have heard about the Homestead Law.

An interesting note for my colleagues, the reason the Homestead Law was not enacted before 1862 was that the southern States knew that any settlement in the West or any new States in the West would be free States. They would oppose slavery. So it took until 1862 when the southern States had left the Union. It took until 1862 to pass the Homestead Act because, prior to 1862, the southern States defeated the Homestead Act.

What is the Homestead Act? The Act enacted in 1862 provided that either head of a family, either head of family, which is interesting back then because there was recognition of the woman, but even the woman or the man as head of the family had to be 21 years old or a veteran of just 14 days in service in the Armed Forces. And if you were a citizen, you could acquire a tract of land under private ownership. You could acquire a tract of land of 160 acres.

And what happened, every American's dream, every American's dream is to own private property. Every American's dream back then was to own a farm. You see, our land, our economy back then was 98 percent agriculture, and it was your dream back then to go out and have your own piece of land. And 160 acres under the Homestead Act, even the poor people of our country could go out. You did not have to be rich to have the land. All you had

to do was commit to that piece of land 5 years. You had to live on it and work on it for 5 years.

That was enough incentive to entice a lot of our population, not a lot, but enough of our population would be more proper terminology, enough of our population to go West, young man, go west, and that is what they did.

They begin to move into these areas. They begin to go into the Iowas and the Nebraskas and the Ohios and down here in the regions, the Oklahomas. As they got up here in the Dakotas and so on, a funny thing happened, what is that saying, a funny thing happened on the way to the play? A funny thing happened on the way to the West Coast.

What happened was this, when they started to move West, they found out in the State of Kansas or up there in Nebraska that 160 acres really was not quite enough in some spots to produce enough agriculture to support one family. In a lot of areas, it was enough land to do that.

They actually amended the Homestead Act to double the 160 acres in some places to make it 320 acres. That is why you have a homestead of 160 and some of 320. Some areas out in here took 320 acres to support a family. Remember the focus of the country back then was a family. What was necessary to provide for an average family?

□ 2045

They based on that on acres, 160 acres or 320 acres. But as I said, something happened on the way to the West. They hit the Rocky Mountains. What happened in the Rocky Mountains? This starts to begin to explain our differences, why we have so much government ownership in the West and very little public ownership in the East, why in the East we are dominated by private property ownership, and in the West we are dominated by government ownership.

What began to happen is when people, our frontiersman, the explorers, the brave people, the men and the women and the husbands and the people who went out, a typical life-span was probably 35 years old, the disease and so on that took so many of their lives, but they continued as frontiersmen to go into the West.

When they hit the Rocky Mountains, guess what they discovered? They got up in that kind of country, number one, they found out that, in the East, you try to get rid of your water. In the West, you try and conserve water. They discovered that the West was a very arid place, that it did not have water like the East did.

On top of that, they discovered 160 acres in many places would not even support a cow. There was no way possible for you to be able to support a family in the Rocky Mountains on 160 acres from an agricultural point of view.

So what was the result? We found that our populations were going around

the mountains. They found here in California, see this patch in California where you have private property, the white spot there, a lot of private property ownership there. That was prosperous. People were skipping this area, and they were coming around into the private property ownership areas of California where you could become prosperous, where you could support a family in the valleys and so on of California.

Well, the government realized that this was a problem. We did not want people bypassing and going around and ending up in California. We wanted people to live all the way from California to New York.

So they had to come up with some kind of remedy to convince people to live in the Rocky Mountains, to convince people to live in this arid part of the country.

So they did the calculation. Somebody came up and said, you know, in order to support a family in the Rocky Mountains, a family may need 3,000 acres, not 160 acres, which was later amended to 320 acres, but like 3,000 acres to support a family.

The government, as one can understand, said, wait a minute. We cannot give 3,000 acres to everybody that comes in under the Homestead Act. We cannot amend the Homestead Act to provide 3,000 acres.

Thereupon was born the idea, hey, instead of selling the land, instead of allowing our citizens to go out and work the land and take title to the land, let us loan them the land. Let us keep ownership of the land but allow the people to go out and use the land.

They talked about it, and they debated it. It was never the intent of this government, ever, it was never the intent of this government to take this part of the Nation and tie up almost the entire Western United States and almost all of Alaska.

Take a look at when we brought Alaska in as a State. Take a look at when the Seward's Folly bought Alaska. It was never the intent of the government and it has never been the intent of the government to make that land off limits to people. It was never that intent.

Today you will hear people who urge, hey, let us get them off the Federal lands. Ironically, most of those claims and those urges come from the East because they feel no pain. They do not have a lot of government land in the East. But we are completely surrounded.

For example, in my district, outside of the city of Pueblo, my communities, whether it is Glenwood Springs, Colorado, whether it is Durango, whether it is Grand Junction, Meeker, Craig, Telluride, Aspen, Snowmass, Vail, it is completely surrounded by government lands.

The fact is that never ever, and I keep stressing this because it is so critically important, never in the history of this country was it the intent

of the government, of the people, of the citizens, or of any organization to take that part of the country that is in color on this map and make it off limits to the citizens of this country. It was always the intent of the Federal Government and the government lands here to manage those lands in such a way that you could have a concept called multiple use.

Now, many of my colleagues grew up, as I did, going into the National Forests. Do my colleagues remember what the sign was that hung on the National Forests? For example, the White River National Forest, whose headquarters are in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, do my colleagues remember what that sign said? It says "Welcome, you are now entering the White River National Forest". Underneath that hung a sign that said "A land of many uses". That is exactly what our forefathers wanted, a land of many uses.

The government would keep title because of the politics. Because of the politics of giving that much land to one person, the government kept title, which explains exactly why the government owns these vast amounts of land. They kept title. But they always intended for it to be a land of many uses. That concept has worked very well over the years.

Now obviously the government maintained the management responsibility. Every one of us in these chambers have management responsibilities on government lands.

As science advances, as our own technology and management of lands advances, we have to change our management process. But never has our management required that, in bulk, we take people off the lands.

I come from a land where we are surrounded by the government. We live in a country where we all dream of private land ownership. We live in a country that was to be free of the government, that the government worked for the people. The people did not work for the government. That is the concept of our country.

Yet, in the West, we find ourselves besieged by people who do not face the same challenges we do, and some who face the same challenges but, in my opinion, do not appreciate the fact that we are almost totally dependent upon government lands for our subsistence, our recreational subsistence, our environmental protection, our highways, our power lines, our water.

I will give my colleagues an example. Water in the State of Colorado, almost every drop of water in Colorado in the western half is stored upon, originates, or runs across Federal lands. Can one imagine if our use of that water, if the many uses of lands, a land of many uses was prohibited as some people now urge?

Now, let me say that the public lands have with it, as I mentioned earlier, a very high responsibility. These lands do belong to the people of the country. But I am tired of hearing the argument

that, hey, the people back here, the people that enjoy complete private ownership, look, some of these States we cannot even find a government spot in, but I am tired of some people who say, look, you know, we should not allow these people, for example, to have a ski area in Colorado, to expand a ski area, to have a highway, to have power lines. My colleagues cannot imagine what we go through.

To give my colleagues an idea, out here in the East, when one wants to build a ditch for water, when one wants to build a highway, when one wants to do some kind of alteration of the land, one goes to one's public zoning board. One may go to one's municipality or to one's county, the zoning board.

When we want to do it out here in the West, our zoning board is located here in Washington, D.C., the BLM or the Department of Interior or the Forest Service or the United States Congress. That is where our planning and zoning board is. So as one can expect, it gets somewhat frustrating for those of us.

I can tell my colleagues that, for some reason out there, there seems to be a connotation that, if one supports many uses of the public lands, why, one must be against the environment. That could not be further from the truth.

The reason many of us live out there is because of the environment. We do not live out there because we get rich living out there. We live out there because, and I happen to think my district is one of the most beautiful, and I think most of my colleagues on the floor would agree, my district is one of the most beautiful districts in the country.

My district has got 54 mountains over 14,000 feet. My district is the highest district in the Nation. We live at the highest elevation in the Nation. It is beauty everywhere one looks.

But do my colleagues know what we have discovered over the years, people can live amongst that beauty without scarring it.

Now, we have learned a lot. We learned that the mining techniques, for example, which pretty much are gone now in the mountains, and that argument could be held one way or the other, we learned that the old mining techniques tore up the land, and we are now recovering a lot of that land.

But we also know, for example, for our forests, we have learned a lot about forest and forest health. We know that in forest and forest health that management of that forest, taking timber out of the forest, not for the sake of commercial timber, not for the sake of commercial timber, but to manage the forest for our wildlife, for the health of the forest is necessary.

I think it is incumbent upon those of my colleagues who do not live near public lands, I think it is incumbent upon them to take a little time to understand why in the West we have different problems because of the fact that we live on government lands or we are surrounding by government lands,

compared to the problems my colleagues have under private ownership.

Let us go just for a moment, I want to talk about another book here that is very fascinating about the forests in America. This is strictly now limited to forests, not just public lands. This book is by Douglas McCleary. It is called "American Forests, a History of Resiliency and Recovery." Now, again, I have never met the author to the best of my knowledge. I am just telling my colleagues this is a good book, a good reference book for something I am talking about. I think it would be good to talk about a few interesting factors that are highlighted by this book.

Now, this book, by the way, is not put out by an environmental organization. It is not put out by a lumber company. It is put out by an individual who has gained a reputation for integrity in his investigations and his facts.

Let us read a few things. "Following two centuries of decline, the area of forest land has stabilized. Today the United States has the same amount of forest area as it did from 1920."

Now, if my colleagues listen to some of this propaganda, a lot which, by the way, has just come on recently to raise funds, attacking the Interior Secretary Gail Norton, who I know personally. I have dealt with Gail. I have worked side by side with her, she is from Colorado, for years and years. This is an individual in my opinion of high integrity, but who is being assaulted by certain organizations who want to use her as a fund-raising technique. If one listens to some of this advertising, one would think the forests out here have been devastated.

Again, look at it, the forests today are as large as the forests were in 1920. One could never gather that from those commercials that one hears.

"Nationally, the average volume of standing timber per acre in the United States forest is about one-third greater today than it was in 1952. In the East, the average volume per acre of standing timber", this is not processed timber, this is not commercial timber, this is standing timber, "in the east, the average volume of standing timber is almost doubled." In the West, it is a third greater than it was just 50 years ago, a third greater in standing timber.

Now, remember, a large part of this is because, in the early days, for example, when the transcontinental railroad went through, they took a lot of forest. They took a lot of timber down. The trains, the steamships, the food, everything depended on timber. They put their cows in there. They did not manage the harvest of it. They cut timber tree after tree after tree for the ties underneath the rail. Remember all those steam locomotives, before they put coal in there, they through wood in there.

And the fence, back then, the fences were all built by wood. Today, this is before the invention of barbed wire or wire for fences. So a lot of the uses of wood have been reduced. So that is in

fact a contributing factor that we have to consider when we talk about the increase here.

But nonetheless, listen to this: "The populations ever whitetail deer, wild turkey, elk, pronghorns, and many other wildlife species have increased dramatically. Tree planting on all forest land rose dramatically after World War II, reaching record levels in the 1980s. Many private forests are now actively managed for tree growing. 70,000 certified tree farms encompass 95 million acres of privately owned land."

In other words, now the big thing is not farming, but actually growing trees.

"The tens of millions of acres of stump lands that existed in 1900 have long since been reforested. Many of those areas today are mature forests. Others have been harvested a second time, and a cycle of regeneration to young forests has started again."

"Eastern forests have staged a major come back. Forest growth nationally has exceeded the harvest since the 1940s with each subsequent decade generally showing increased margins. Recreational use on our national forests has increased many fold."

I am going to talk about recreational management because it is very important.

"American society in the 20th Century changed from rural to urban and industrialized. And although this change has been accompanied by a corresponding physical and psychological separation of people from land and resources, today's urbanized nation is no less dependent on the products of its forests and fields than were the subsistence farmers of the Americas past."

I think, and I will not read much further here, but I think the summation that I am trying to say here is, look, we have to retain, and we have to stand strong for the preservation of multiple use, of many uses on Federal lands. It is critical for the well-being of half of this Nation.

Now I realize that this takes some patience on people who do not deal with Federal lands. Oh, sure, out here in the East, you have the Appalachians. Down here in Florida, you have got the Everglades. You have some spots up here near the lakes, Great Lakes and so on.

But for the most part, I am asking the understanding of my colleagues, before they draw automatic conclusions about people's use, about people as being a resource on government and public lands, take into consideration the management of those lands.

There are lots of ways that we manage Federal lands. The most exclusive way and the way that is fixed forever, it is locked in, I guess theoretically Congress could change it, but short of a world war, I do not see it changing, the most aggressive, most nonflexible and most locked-in management of Federal lands is called a wilderness area.

I know a lot about wilderness areas. I sponsored wilderness areas. Last year

I put in over 100,000 acres of land into wilderness on different projects. The year before, I think I put in another 18,000 acres. Wilderness is a very extreme tool and it is a very proper tool in its appropriate use.

□ 2100

But from wilderness clear over to this end of the spectrum would be no management of Federal lands. That is no good.

The days of being able to allow people to go onto the public lands and cut timber or recreate or take water or destroy the environment, those days are gone. Every one of us who lives in the West has an additional responsibility. Because we live on the land, we can monitor the land more carefully. We have to be the enforcers of making sure that those public lands are not abused.

But at the same time we need to understand there are different methods. There is a strong advertising campaign going on out there that would suggest to my colleagues that if these government lands, if large parts of these lands are not put into wilderness areas, then these lands will not be protected. The reason wilderness was used as the designation is that it is a very popular word. Stop 10 people in your district and see if you can get any negative view about the word "wilderness." That is like motherhood and apple pie.

The reality is that you have to look at the fine print. What does the fine print do for water rights, and in the West I intend to speak extensively about water soon in one of my night-side chats, but wilderness areas have significant impacts on water rights. And Colorado is the only State in the Union, Colorado is the only State in the Union where all of our free-flowing water goes out of the State. We have no free-flowing water for our use that comes into the State. So water rights are a big deal; and when you have the Federal Government out of Washington, D.C. coming in and doing things with land designations that impact our water rights, we kind of get up in arms. We kind of become a little defensive, which is why you see such extensive debate when we have Congressman from the eastern coast who decide let us put a wilderness out in Colorado or Utah or Nevada, it kind of burns us when one of you colleagues steps forward, and you have probably never spent a night in the West unless you were doing a political trip or on vacation, and you step forward and say it does not impact my constituents, we are not going to put a wilderness area in Central Park of New York City or Connecticut, but let us put a wilderness in Colorado.

The impact and the management of government lands, what does it do to the local people? What is the fine print? We have a lot of different management tools, and by the way, every other management tool allows more flexibility. We have national parks, national monuments, special manage-

ment areas. We have areas where we allow mineral protection and grazing and hunting. We have areas that have special designations like Lake Powell for water storage; and by the way, California, for power production.

We have an array of management tools. Many of you may remember the tragic fire of Storm King Mountain that occurred in Glenwood Springs. We managed that land under one plan one day; and because of the fire, a few days later we switched the management plan because we had an entire different set of factors to deal with.

The wild fires that take place, we have discovered that many fires are healthy for the forest; but many of these fires do damage which needs to be managed in a different way. The wildlife that we try to preserve, the Endangered Species Act, we find out that there has to be certain management of the forest to preserve these.

We have to understand that recreation, many of the people, unless you are very wealthy in my district, for example, if you live in Glenwood Springs or Aspen or Steamboat, most of the mountain communities in Colorado, unless you are very wealthy, you do not own a lot of land because the land out there is very expensive, and most people are not wealthy, although it is a very wealthy district, and most of those people recreate on Federal lands. Some of our biggest family recreational sports are skiing or recreating at Lake Powell. Yet we have people out there, primarily again out of the East, we have special interest groups who want to drain Lake Powell. Lake Powell has more shoreline than the entire Pacific West Coast. It produces massive amounts of power. It gives us flood control. But again as I said, it is probably the primary family recreation spot in the State of Utah; and of course you have that family recreation area in Arizona, and these groups want to drain it. They want to take down the dam to go back, as they say, to days they never experienced, and with very little knowledge.

And here we have a State like California who suffered blackouts yesterday and suffered blackouts today, and they may suffer rolling blackouts tomorrow. Why? Because on a per-capita basis California produces less power than any other State in the Union. Recently in the last 10 to 20 years, they have kind of bought into this picture: not in my backyard. No power production in my State. Let somebody else do it.

That kind of philosophy is what creates problems. Let me come back. There are lots of ways to manage these lands which does a good job. For example, the Colorado Canyons Conservation Area, that was my bill last year. My wife and I hiked the conservation area this last weekend. There are very few weekends that my wife and I are not hiking public lands, recreating on the lands, talking to people that use the lands, talking to the environ-

mentalists and the water experts on these lands.

The Colorado canyons, and if you are ever in Grand Junction, Colorado, go walk the canyon. Go down to the Great Sand Dunes or the Black Canyon National Park, take a look at the Rocky Mountain National Park. There we have used in a responsible fashion, and we have been able to manage these public lands. Do not take it away from us. It is our life-style. We subsidize. It is our subsistence, and we think that we have good teams out there.

My Colorado canyons legislation could not have happened if I had not had cooperation from environmental activists, if I had not had cooperation from the ranching community, if I had not had cooperation from the locally elected officials, from local groups like the local chamber of commerce or from the mountain bikers, the users, or from the people, the water experts, because the Colorado River came there.

There are a lot of different people that can come together, but they ought to come together in a straightforward fashion. From the ads that I hear about wilderness, the perception, especially here in the East, because those in the East have not really lived it, it is very easy to kind of direct your perception of what is happening in the West. And the easiest way to kind of propagandize or direct your vision of what is going on in the West and on the government lands is to make you visualize that the only way to protect the lands is to put it in wilderness; that the people have overrun the lands and that we need to take people off the lands.

In some cases, that is accurate. In most cases, it is not. In most cases, the land is being properly managed. Can we improve? Of course we can improve. Who cannot? Education can improve, health care can be improved, highways can be improved, environmental organizations can improve. Of course we can improve that management. And it is a responsibility of ours to improve that management. But we should not take the most dramatic, the most radical step, and that is to join that movement to take people off these lands.

Now, I am going to have an opportunity here in the next week or week and a half and I will have another night-side chat where I will talk to my colleagues about water. Water really is an amazing subject to talk about, especially when we take a look at exactly the differences that we have in the East and the West. My colleagues are going to see that, as I mentioned, there are dramatic differences between ownership and so on.

And before I close out on water, I want to give some comparisons of some interests. My comments here are focused towards those here who represent eastern States, States like Kentucky, Rhode Island, New York, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Delaware, or Maryland. Let me give some comparisons so my colleagues can understand where my focus, where my devotion is in the

West. You will get a pretty broad picture.

Let us compare some States. I picked 11 eastern States tonight in preparation for these comments. I picked 11 eastern States, and I picked 11 western States to compare the amount of public ownership and the amount of government land in the West compared to government land in the East.

The State of Nevada. In the State of Nevada, roughly 83 percent of the land is owned by the government. Eighty-three percent of the State of Nevada is owned by the government versus the State of New Jersey, which is only 3 percent. Three percent in the State of New Jersey.

The State of Utah. Sixty-four percent of the State of Utah is owned by the government; in Maryland, just a little over 2 percent; Utah, 64 percent. Maryland, just over 2 percent. Idaho. Sixty-one percent of the State of Idaho is owned by the government. In Delaware, 2 percent. Pennsylvania, 2 percent. Indiana, 1.7 percent. Oregon, back to the West again, 52 percent. Wyoming, 50 percent. Half of the State of Wyoming is owned by the government. Arizona. Almost half of the State of Arizona is owned by the government. California. Forty-five percent of the State of California is owned by the government. Colorado. Thirty-seven percent of the State of Colorado is owned by the government. And, by the way, most of that ownership is in my district.

In Ohio, less than 1.3 percent is owned by the government. Massachusetts. Less than 1.3 percent of Massachusetts is owned by the government. Maine, less than a percent. New York, less than a percent. Rhode Island, less than half a percent. Connecticut, two-tenths of a percent. On the other hand, back to the West, New Mexico, 32 percent; Washington, 28 percent; Montana, 28 percent.

So when one of my colleagues from Massachusetts, where about 1 percent of the State is owned by the government, proposes legislation dealing with a State like Nevada, which has 83 percent of its land owned by the government; or Alaska, Alaska is in the high 90s, I think 94 or 96 percent of Alaska is owned by the government, it is nice to understand these comparisons.

My point is this: we work as a team back here, theoretically, in the United States Congress. Not theoretically, we really do. There are a lot of things we agree on. A lot of people say to me, gosh, back at the United States Capital it is always Republicans and Democrats, Republicans and Democrats. Always division. That is not necessarily true. There are a lot of differences back here between urban and rural, between East and West, and I am here tonight to try to explain the justification.

It is not evil that there are differences between the East and the West, but it is something that should be understood. For us to do our jobs efficiently, for us to be Representatives of the United States of America, we

need to understand some fundamental differences brought about during the early days of our country and the settlement of our country. That is what I hope my comments tonight have accomplished.

Now, I want to come back in a week or so, and I want to spend an hour talking about the differences in water. Water and the West. It is uniquely different than water in the East. The water tastes the same, perhaps; but the water laws and the allocation of water and the amount of water and the implications of storage of water and the power production of water, all of those issues have factors that create a differentiation between the East and the West.

We clearly, in the West, are outnumbered by those in the East. We know this. It is like the same in my district in Colorado. In my district in Colorado, we have 80 percent of the water resources, and 80 percent of the population lives outside my district.

□ 2115

We have to try and educate and work with each other so that we truly can have a team effort towards a common goal. But many times in the West we feel left out. And so my purpose in speaking with Members this evening and my purpose in speaking with them next week about water is so that they have a little clearer understanding of why we get so energized here, why we are so concerned when we talk about something as fundamental to us, not necessarily fundamental to you but fundamental to our subsistence in the West, such as government and public lands, such as water.

I look forward, Mr. Speaker, to again next week having a similar discussion where we will focus on water. I think Members will be impressed, they will be surprised how much water is necessary, I think about 1,500 gallons of water to serve them a Big Mac, a French fry and a malt. That is about the water that is necessary to grow that kind of food for them. The amount of water that agriculture takes, we never even think about, because you do not think about how much water it takes to get a Big Mac hamburger at McDonald's. You do not think how much water it takes when you buy hamburger buns at the grocery store. You do not think how much water it takes when you have the oak tree outside. It is a lot of water. The management of that water is just as critical to us as the management of public lands.

In conclusion, I would recommend, it is fascinating, regardless of where you live in the United States, it is fascinating to read this book about the transcontinental railroad, 1863 to 1869. It is entitled "Nothing Like It in the World," Stephen Ambrose. Members may remember, he wrote about the Lewis and Clark exploration and so on. It is fascinating. I would challenge each of my colleagues to go out and get this, and I would bet you that every

one of them in a couple of weeks will say, wow, that is a great book. That really gave me a perception and a study of American history. I would also recommend that any time you come across a history teacher or a business teacher, ask those instructors to present this to their classes, to talk about the difference that the transcontinental railroad made in everything from timekeeping in the United States to the amount of federally and government owned lands in the West compared with government and privately owned lands in the East.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BECERRA (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of personal business.

Ms. BROWN of Florida (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of official business.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today on account of official business.

Mr. UNDERWOOD (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and the balance of the week on account of official business.

Mr. CANNON (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for the week of March 12 and for March 19 and the balance of the week on account of family health concerns.

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for today on account of inclement weather and canceled flights.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mrs. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TIERNEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SLAUGHTER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. BILIRAKIS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BILIRAKIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. BIGGERT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAUL, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. GOSS, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mrs. MORELLA, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. HEFLEY, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. JONES of North Carolina, for 5 minutes today and March 21.
 Mr. KIRK, for 5 minutes, today.
 Mr. SCHROCK, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Member (at her own request) to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, March 21, 2001, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1276. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Pyriproxyfen; Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-301103; FRL-6766-6] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received March 12, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1277. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Pymetrozine; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions [OPP-301106; FRL-6766-9] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received March 12, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1278. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Imazethapyr; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerance [OPP-301108; FRL-6774-9] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received March 12, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1279. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Butene, Homopolymer; Tolerance Exemption [OPP-301104; FRL-6769-8] (RIN: 2070-AB78) received March 6, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

1280. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Protection of the Stratospheric Ozone: De Minimis Exemption for Laboratory Essential Uses for Calendar Year 2001 [FRL-6952-1] (RIN: 2060-AJ15) received March 7, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1281. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes: Washington [WA-72-7147a; FRL-6938-5] received March 7, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

1282. A letter from the Executive Director, Committee For Purchase From People Who

Are Blind Or Severely Disabled, transmitting the Committee's final rule—Additions to and Deletions from the Procurement List—received March 13, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Government Reform.

1283. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Availability of "Allocation of Fiscal Year 2001 Operator Training Grants" [FRL-6951-6] received March 6, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

1284. A letter from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule—Request For Grant Proposals Making Smart Growth Work: Community Innovations And Responses To Barriers—received March 12, 2001, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Agriculture.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 92. Resolution providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rept. 107-23). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 93. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 247) to amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to authorize communities to use community development block grant funds for construction of tornado-safe shelters in manufactured home parks (Rept. 107-24). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. JOHN (for himself, Mr. GORDON, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. KIND, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. CLAYTON, Mr. CLEMENT, Mr. BERRY, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. PHELPS, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. BOYD, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. TANNER, Mr. BAKER, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. FROST, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

H.R. 1096. A bill to provide for improved educational opportunities in low-income and rural schools and districts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GANSKE (for himself, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. BALDACCIO, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. BERUTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. BONO, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. EVANS, Mr. FRANK, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HORN, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. KIND, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. LAFALCE, Mr. LEACH, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LUTHER, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. NADLER, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. OLVER, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. ROYBAL-AL-

LARD, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. STARK, Mr. STUPAK, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. WEINER, and Mr. WELLER):

H.R. 1097. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Ms. BROWN of Florida):

H.R. 1098. A bill to improve the recording and discharging of maritime liens and expand the American Merchant Marine Memorial Wall of Honor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska (for himself, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Ms. BROWN of Florida):

H.R. 1099. A bill to make changes in laws governing Coast Guard personnel, increase marine safety, renew certain groups that advise the Coast Guard on safety issues, make miscellaneous improvements to Coast Guard operations and policies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. POMBO (for himself, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. SCHAFER, Mr. LARGENT, Mrs. BONO, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. SKEEN, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. HERGER, and Mr. REBERG):

H.R. 1100. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to improve the ability of individuals and local, State, and Federal agencies to prevent natural flood disaster; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. PICKERING (for himself, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. BOYD, Mr. TERRY, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. NORWOOD, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska):

H.R. 1101. A bill to repeal the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935, to enact the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1999, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. PICKERING:

H.R. 1102. A bill to provide for the preservation and restoration of historic buildings at historically women's public colleges or universities; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. BRADY of Texas (for himself, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. COX, and Mr. SCHAFER):

H.R. 1103. A bill to provide safer schools and a better educational environment; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 1104. A bill to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide, in the case of an employee welfare benefit plan providing benefits in the event of disability, an exemption from preemption under such title for State tort actions to recover damages arising from the failure of the plan to timely provide such benefits; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 1105. A bill to amend the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 to provide for homeowners to recover treble damages from mortgage escrow servicers for failures by such servicers to make timely payments from escrow accounts for homeowners insurance, taxes, or other charges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 1106. A bill to exclude certain veterans' compensation and pension amounts from consideration as adjusted income for purposes of determining the amount of rent paid by a family for a dwelling unit assisted under the United States Housing Act of 1937; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. ANDREWS:

H.R. 1107. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow married individuals who are legally separated and living apart to exclude from gross income the income from United States savings bonds used to pay higher education tuition and fees; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BLIRAKIS:

H.R. 1108. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide that remarriage of the surviving spouse of a veteran after age 55 shall not result in termination of dependency and indemnity compensation; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GOODLATTE (for himself, Mr. ARMEY, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. BALLENGER, Mr. BARTON of Texas, Mrs. BONO, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. COX, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FLETCHER, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. HILLEARY, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. PAUL, Mr. RYUN of Kansas, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WOLF, Mr. ISTOOK, and Mr. GOODE):

H.R. 1109. A bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. ROEMER, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. KIND, Mr. KING, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. BALDACCIO, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GOODE, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. WALSH, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. WOLF, Mr. FRANK, and Ms. NORTON):

H.R. 1110. A bill to prohibit high school and college sports gambling in all States including States where such gambling was permitted prior to 1991; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREENWOOD (for himself, Mrs. LOWEY, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SHAYS, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. OSE, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. BOEHLERT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BLAGOJEVICH, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BALDACCIO, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. STARK, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FRANK, Mr. OLVER, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. BARRETT, Mr. HOLT, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. HARMAN, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. FILNER, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. HOFFFEL, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. EVANS, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. CUMMINGS, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California):

H.R. 1111. A bill to require equitable coverage of prescription contraceptive drugs and

devices, and contraceptive services under health plans; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. HOFFFEL (for himself, Mr. CONYERS, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. FRANK, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BORSKI, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. NADLER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, and Mr. WEXLER):

H.R. 1112. A bill to make Federal law apply to antique firearms in the same way it applies to other firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas:

H.R. 1113. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish an office within the Administration to conduct oversight of certain loan programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business.

By Mr. LAFALCE (for himself and Ms. VELAZQUEZ):

H.R. 1114. A bill to combat international money laundering and protect the United States financial system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. LEACH:

H.R. 1115. A bill to authorize the Secretary of State to provide for the establishment of nonprofit entities for the Department's international educational, cultural and arts programs; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mrs. LOWEY (for herself, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. FROST, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. WEINER, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. NADLER, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. SHAYS, Mrs. KELLY, Mr. HYDE, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. STARK, Ms. SOLIS, and Mr. CROWLEY):

H.R. 1116. A bill to reestablish the Office of Noise Abatement and Control in the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. KIRK, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. LEACH, Mr. HOFFFEL, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. FILNER, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PALLONE, Mrs. THURMAN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SAWYER, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. JEFFERSON, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. LEE, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. NADLER, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. ALLEN, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. FRANK, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mr. WYNN, Mr. BALDACCIO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mrs. KELLY, Ms. WATERS, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr.

HILLIARD, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Mr. STARK, Ms. PELOSI, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. WEINER, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. LEVIN):

H.R. 1117. A bill to provide a United States voluntary contribution to the United Nations Population Fund; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mrs. MINK of Hawaii:

H.R. 1118. A bill to establish comprehensive early childhood education programs, early childhood education staff development programs, model Federal Government early childhood education programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mrs. MINK of Hawaii:

H.R. 1119. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide grants to State and local educational agencies to pay such agencies for one-half of the salary of a teacher who uses approved sabbatical leave to pursue a course of study that will improve his or her classroom teaching; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MORAN of Virginia (for himself, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. WOLF, and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA):

H.R. 1120. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to designate Fort Belvoir, Virginia, as the site for the planned National Museum of the United States Army; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. POMEROY (for himself, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

H.R. 1121. A bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to require retailers of beef, lamb, and pork to inform consumers, at the final point of sale to consumers, of the country of origin of the commodities; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. RANGEL:

H.R. 1122. A bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. in recognition of his outstanding and enduring contributions to the Nation; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. RANGEL:

H.R. 1123. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 153 East 110th Street in New York, New York, as the "Tito Puente Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. RANGEL:

H.R. 1124. A bill to authorize the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy to enter into negotiations with representatives of the Government of Cuba to provide for increased cooperation between Cuba and the United States on drug interdiction efforts; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. RANGEL:

H.R. 1125. A bill to redesignate the Federal building located at 1 Federal Plaza in New York, New York, as the "Ronald H. Brown Federal Building"; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. RYUN of Kansas:

H.R. 1126. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow all taxpayers who maintain households with dependents a credit for dependents; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. STEARNS:

H.R. 1127. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for amounts paid for health insurance and prescription drug costs of individuals; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. THORNBERRY:

H.R. 1128. A bill to reduce the amount of paperwork and improve payment policies for

health care services, to prevent fraud and abuse through health care provider education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. ETHERIDGE, and Mr. HONDA):

H.R. 1129. A bill to establish the High Performance Schools Program in the Department of Energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. ETHERIDGE, and Mr. HONDA):

H.R. 1130. A bill to establish a research program at the National Science Foundation to quantify the relationship between the physical characteristics of elementary and secondary schools and student academic achievement in those schools, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. MATHESON):

H.R. 1131. A bill to provide permanent appropriations to the Radiation Exposure Compensation Trust Fund to make payments under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (42 U.S.C. 2210 note); to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. MATHESON):

H.R. 1132. A bill to ensure the timely payment of benefits to eligible persons under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (42 U.S.C. 2210 note); to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma:

H.R. 1133. A bill to amend the impact aid program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 relating to the calculation of payments for small local educational agencies; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WELLER (for himself, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. POMEROY):

H.R. 1134. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the exemption from the self-employment tax for certain termination payments received by former life insurance salesmen; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. SIMPSON, and Mr. OSE):

H.R. 1135. A bill to ensure that members of the Armed Forces who are married and have minor dependents are eligible for military family housing containing more than two bedrooms; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. PICKERING, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. BOUCHER, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. SHOWS, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. SCHAFFER, Mr. NORWOOD, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. PAUL, Ms. HART, and Mr. CRAMER):

H.R. 1136. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require Department of Veterans Affairs pharmacies to dispense medications to veterans for prescriptions written by private practitioners, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. WILSON (for herself, Mr. SKEEN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. HOLT, Mr. PAUL, and Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon):

H.R. 1137. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a permanent tax incentive for research and development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HOYER (for himself, Mr. HYDE, Mr. FRANK, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SABO, and Mr. PALLONE):

H.J. Res. 39. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to repeal the 22nd amendment to the Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ANDREWS (for himself, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. RILEY, and Mr. KIRK):

H. Con. Res. 67. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress relating to the Taiwan Relations Act; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. WOLF, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. EHRLICH, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. HOFFEL, Mr. MCNULTY, Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. TOWNS):

H. Con. Res. 68. Concurrent resolution condemning the Government of the People's Republic of China for its poor human rights record; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. LAMPSON (for himself, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. HORN, Mr. GREENWOOD, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. KOLBE, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. KIRK, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mr. FOLEY, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. BORSKI, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. FRANK, Mr. KIND, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. BACA, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. ORTIZ, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. GUTKNECHT, Mr. GREEN of Texas, and Mr. BENTSEN):

H. Con. Res. 69. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress on the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction and urging all Contracting States to the Convention to recommend the production of practice guides; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. SAWYER (for himself, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. PELOSI, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. LUTHER, Mr. MCDERMOTT, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LANTOS, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WYNN, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. FROST):

H. Con. Res. 70. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should develop, promote, and implement policies to slow global population growth by voluntary means; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on International Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. ROEMER):

H. Con. Res. 71. Concurrent resolution recognizing the importance of families and children in the United States and expressing support for the goals and ideas of National Family Day; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. WICKER:

H. Con. Res. 72. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the

employers of the members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. PRYCE of Ohio.

H. Res. 92. A resolution providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules; House Calendar No. 8. House Report No. 107-23.

By Mr. DIAZ-BALART.

H. Res. 93. A resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 247) to amend the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to authorize communities to use community development block grant funds for construction of tornado-safe shelters in manufactured home parks; House Calendar No. 9. House Report No. 107-24.

By Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD:

H. Res. 94. A resolution honoring the contributions of Venus and Serena Williams; to the Committee on Government Reform.

By Mr. RANGEL:

H. Res. 95. A resolution expressing the support for a National Week of Reflection and Tolerance; to the Committee on Government Reform.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 6: Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. SAXTON, and Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia.

H.R. 13: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 16: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 17: Mrs. MORELLA.

H.R. 20: Mr. SUNUNU.

H.R. 25: Ms. MCKINNEY.

H.R. 28: Mr. FERGUSON, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. HOYER, Mr. MOORE, Mr. BOYD, Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma, and Ms. KILPATRICK.

H.R. 31: Mr. GRAVES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, and Mr. WICKER.

H.R. 41: Mr. KELLER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Ms. HART, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. GRUCCI, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. SCHROCK.

H.R. 45: Mr. SIMMONS.

H.R. 61: Mr. PASTOR and Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin.

H.R. 65: Mrs. CAPITO.

H.R. 98: Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. MCDERMOTT, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 133: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 144: Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. BAIRD, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. NORTON, Mr. BORSKI, and Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 161: Mr. ISSA.

H.R. 184: Mr. COSTELLO.

H.R. 187: Mr. PAYNE.

H.R. 198: Mr. STUMP.

H.R. 199: Mr. COBLE, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mrs. KELLY.

H.R. 214: Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. PLATTS.

H.R. 220: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 240: Mr. ADERHOLT.

H.R. 257: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. ISSA, Mr. SCHROCK, Mr. PENCE, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 267: Ms. SOLIS.

H.R. 278: Mr. FERGUSON.

H.R. 283: Mr. PETRI.

H.R. 285: Mr. SHAYS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, and Mr. BOUCHER.

H.R. 288: Mr. GONZALEZ.

H.R. 303: Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. KIND, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. FLETCHER, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. DeLAURO, Mr. HORN, Mr. FORD, and Mr. DINGELL.

H.R. 322: Mr. DIAZ-BALART and Mr. DAVIS of Florida.

H.R. 326: Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. TAUSCHER, and Mr. MENENDEZ.

H.R. 335: Mr. LARGENT.

H.R. 336: Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. STRICKLAND, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, and Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.

H.R. 337: Mr. NETHERCUTT and Mr. EVANS.

H.R. 338: Mr. NETHERCUTT.

H.R. 339: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

H.R. 361: Mr. ABERCROMBIE.

H.R. 362: Mr. PENCE, Mr. FROST, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD.

H.R. 368: Ms. HART.

H.R. 369: Ms. NORTON.

H.R. 374: Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, and Mr. SIMMONS.

H.R. 436: Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. OSBORNE, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. SHIMKUS, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. WU, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 437: Mr. GARY MILLER of California and Mr. OTTER.

H.R. 457: Mr. BOEHLERT.

H.R. 503: Mr. HEFLEY and Mr. ARMEY.

H.R. 507: Mr. WICKER.

H.R. 544: Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TERRY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 549: Mr. SOUDER, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. PITTS, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. CALVERT, and Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia.

H.R. 557: Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. ETHERIDGE.

H.R. 572: Mr. GORDON and Mr. LATOURETTE.

H.R. 594: Mr. FARR of California.

H.R. 600: Mr. HALL of Texas, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. BOSWELL, Ms. DeLAURO, Mr. HILLIARD, Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. INSLEE, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. DUNCAN, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 601: Mr. OTTER and Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 602: Ms. HARMAN, Mr. LoBIONDO, Mr. LANGEVIN, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 606: Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. NORTON, Mr. EDWARDS, and Mr. HORN.

H.R. 609: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California.

H.R. 611: Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. WAMP, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. CLEMENT.

H.R. 613: Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. DREIER, and Mr. MOORE.

H.R. 623: Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. Blagojevich, and Mr. Waxman.

H.R. 638: Mr. BONIOR, Ms. SOLIS, and Mr. HOEFFEL.

H.R. 641: Mr. HUTCHINSON, Ms. DUNN, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. McCRERY, Mr. BALLENGER, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. McGOVERN, Ms. LEE, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. OTTER, Mr. WALDEN of Oregon, Mr. WELDON of Florida, and Mr. McKEON.

H.R. 648: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland.

H.R. 661: Ms. DUNN.

H.R. 663: Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. RIVERS, and Ms. VELAZQUEZ.

H.R. 668: Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. BACA, and Mr. LoBIONDO.

H.R. 671: Ms. McKINNEY and Mr. BERMAN.

H.R. 686: Ms. SOLIS.

H.R. 704: Ms. LEE.

H.R. 705: Mr. STUMP.

H.R. 710: Ms. HART and Mr. KLECZKA.

H.R. 717: Mr. SAWYER, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, and Mr. BISHOP.

H.R. 721: Mr. UNDERWOOD, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. ROSS, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BARCIA, Mr. HOLT, Mr. VISCLOSKEY, Mr. MATSUI, Ms. LEE, Mr. WEINER, Mr. SCOTT, and Ms. SOLIS.

H.R. 737: Mr. BALDACCIO, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. EVANS, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. REHBERG.

H.R. 744: Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 745: Mr. Blagojevich.

H.R. 762: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. ARMEY, and Mr. WEXLER.

H.R. 765: Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. FRANK, and Mr. BROWN of Ohio.

H.R. 770: Ms. VELAZQUEZ and Mr. WATT of North Carolina.

H.R. 787: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 792: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois and Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 801: Mr. BALDACCIO, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CRENSHAW, and Mrs. KELLY.

H.R. 808: Mr. ENGEL, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. OLVER, Mr. GOODE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, and Mrs. CAPITO.

H.R. 817: Mr. JONES of North Carolina and Mr. ISAKSON.

H.R. 827: Mr. STUPAK, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 835: Mr. FLETCHER, Mr. WATKINS, and Mr. SIMPSON.

H.R. 839: Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. MOORE, and Mr. Blagojevich.

H.R. 844: Mr. RANGEL and Mrs. MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 853: Mr. CRAMER and Mr. McINTYRE.

H.R. 862: Mr. LANGEVIN.

H.R. 864: Mr. DOOLITTLE.

H.R. 868: Mr. LoBIONDO, Mr. SCARBOROUGH, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. FILNER, Mr. CRENSHAW, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. Blagojevich, Mr. AKIN, Mr. PICKERING, and Mr. TERRY.

H.R. 871: Mr. SIMMONS.

H.R. 875: Mr. FRANK, Ms. LEE, Mr. Waxman, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. TERRY, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. HONDA, Ms. NORTON, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. CLAY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, and Ms. HART.

H.R. 876: Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma.

H.R. 886: Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FROST, Ms. McKINNEY, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. WYNN.

H.R. 887: Mr. GRUCCI and Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 892: Mr. SCHAFFER.

H.R. 893: Mr. SCHAFFER.

H.R. 899: Mr. FOLEY, Mr. SIMMONS, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. MOORE, and Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H.R. 902: Mr. FILNER, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. BALDACCIO, Mr. COSTELLO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BONIOR, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. DEUTSCH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. LEACH, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. RILEY, Mr. FROST, Mr. SCHROCK, Mr. DeFAZIO, Ms. HART, Mr. FRANK, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. OTTER.

H.R. 908: Ms. McKINNEY.

H.R. 912: Mr. Blagojevich, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. GEPHARDT, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. HOYER, Mr. MATSUI, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. PHELPS, Mr. STRICKLAND, and Ms. WOOLSEY.

H.R. 914: Mr. CRENSHAW.

H.R. 917: Mr. BROWN of Ohio and Mr. BARCIA.

H.R. 933: Mr. FILNER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Ms. McKINNEY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. JEFFERSON, and Mr. CLYBURN.

H.R. 936: Mr. CLEMENT and Mr. SKELTON.

H.R. 937: Mr. SUNUNU and Mr. HAYWORTH.

H.R. 938: Mr. OLVER, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. WOOLSEY, and Mr. CLAY.

H.R. 948: Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. CLEMMENT.

H.R. 951: Mr. JEFFERSON, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. CAMP.

H.R. 952: Mr. DINGELL, Mr. Waxman, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. FROST, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. FILNER, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 956: Mr. LaFALCE, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. McGOVERN, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. RIVERS, Mr. FILNER, and Mr. LoBIONDO.

H.R. 959: Ms. SOLIS, Ms. LEE, Mr. BARRETT.

H.R. 963: Mr. ROHRBACHER and Mr. SANDERS.

H.R. 968: Mr. FOLEY, Mr. JEFFERSON, Mrs. WILSON, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. SHOWS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. FROST, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. HORN, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. FILNER, Mr. DIAZ-BALART, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, and Mr. CHAMBLISS.

H.R. 981: Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia.

H.R. 995: Mr. SKEEN.

H.R. 996: Mr. SKEEN.

H.R. 1004: Mr. BONIOR, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. WYNN, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 1015: Mr. FRANK and Mr. CHAMBLISS.

H.R. 1018: Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. CULBERSON, and Mr. BAKER.

H.R. 1019: Mr. GOSS, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. McHUGH, Mr. SCHROCK, Mr. TERRY, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. WELDON of Florida.

H.R. 1066: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. LEE, Mr. LANTOS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. STARK, and Ms. SOLIS.

H.R. 1076: Mr. Waxman, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. BARRETT, Mr. GORDON, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. PHELPS, Mr. DeFAZIO, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. FILNER, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. BAIRD, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. OBERSTAR, Ms. LEE, Mr. MOORE, Mr. FRANK, Mr. FROST, Mr. BISHOP, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mr. DAVIS of Florida, and Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 1078: Mrs. THURMAN, Mr. FROST, Mr. FRANK, and Mr. KILDEE.

H.R. 1086: Mr. RUSH.

H.R. 1089: Mr. GONZALEZ.

H.J. Res. 11: Mr. PLATTS and Mr. BARR of Georgia.

H.J. Res. 12: Mr. BARR of Georgia.

H.J. Res. 27: Mr. DOOLITTLE.

H.J. Res. 36: Mr. OTTER, Mr. McKEON, and Mr. TRAFICANT.

H. Con. Res. 4: Mr. FOSSELLA, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, Ms. McKINNEY, Mr. ENGLISH, Mr. HOLDEN, and Mr. LANGEVIN.

H. Con. Res. 23: Mr. BARR of Georgia and Mr. STUMP.

H. Con. Res. 25: Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania and Mr. KIND.

H. Con. Res. 29: Ms. BERKLEY and Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

H. Con. Res. 38: Mr. LaFALCE.

H. Con. Res. 41: Ms. NORTON.

H. Con. Res. 42: Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. ISSA, and Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island.

H. Con. Res. 48: Mr. DOOLITTLE.

H. Con. Res. 49: Mr. DOOLITTLE.

H. Con. Res. 52: Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. Waxman, Ms. LEE, Mr. KIRK, Mr. DeFAZIO, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. COYNE.

H. Con. Res. 54: Mr. TURNER, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DeFAZIO, Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi, and Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon.

H. Con. Res. 58: Ms. SLAUGHTER and Mr. GILMAN.

H. Con. Res. 59: Mr. DELAY and Mrs. KELLY.

H. Con. Res. 60: Mr. WEINER, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Ms. KAPTUR.

H. Res. 13: Mr. STEARNS.

H. Res. 56: Mr. KIRK, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. LEE, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. CLEMENT, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. COYNE, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. DEGETTE, and Ms. MCKINNEY.

H. Res. 67: Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Ms. MCKINNEY, Mr. PASTOR, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. LANTOS, Mrs. MORELLA, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. BENTSEN, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GEORGE

MILLER of California, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. FROST, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. WEXLER, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. COOKSEY, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. LEE.

H. Res. 73: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

H. Res. 86: Ms. SLAUGHTER, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. SOLIS, and Mr. KILDEE.

H. Res. 87: Mr. RANGEL, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. PUTNAM, and Mr. CASTLE.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 526: Mr. BRADY of Texas.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

7. The SPEAKER presented a petition of the Legislature of Rockland County, New York, relative to Resolution No. 56 of 2001 petitioning the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to immediately shut down Indian Point 2 nuclear power plant until the Commission inspects each and every safety component and piece of equipment and certifies to the public that the said nuclear power plant is safe; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.